Finding a home on a large campus like Ohio State can be daunting. Our Fraternity is named FARMHOUSE after the old rural homes of America known for strong family bonds. Grounded in 9 foundational values—ours is a home of Brothers, Scholars and Leaders. If you’re looking for your HOME at Ohio State, join FARMHOUSE.

JOIN THE OHIO CATTLEMEN’S ASSOCIATION
NEW STUDENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM COMING FALL 2017

Enjoy 2 issues of the Ohio Cattlemen Magazine, networking & career development opportunities, and on-campus barbeques.

Student members are eligible for annual drawings that include:
- Cowboy Boots
- Sale credit for OCA member cattle sales
- Registration for NCBA Convention
- Registration for OCA Annual Meeting and Banquet

YOUNG CATTLEMEN’S CONFERENCE:
August 10-12, 2017
- Participate in a mini Beef 509
- Develop spokesperson skills
- Visit elected officials at the statehouse
- Tour the OSU football practice facility

Network with other young cattlemen while learning leadership and public relations skills. Open to any OCA member over the age of 20.

INTERNSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Let’s get Connected!

For More Details visit www.ohiocattle.org or call 614.873.6736

10600 US HWY 42
Marysville, OH 43040

#ohiocattle
Editor's note

Time and change. These two words encapsulate our experiences here at The Ohio State University. This year’s batch of seniors have acquired numerous skills throughout their undergraduate career from classes and club activities, to internships and study abroad programs.

After spending countless hours planning, writing and designing, our team is proud to bring you the 123rd edition of the AgriNaturalist. The stories within this year’s edition of the AgriNaturalist show how our students, faculty and staff are looking toward the future.

Change is the only constant, and this year's edition allows us to reflect on the changes taking place at our university and within various sectors of the agricultural industry. We also highlight the numerous accomplishments and anniversaries achieved by individuals, organizations and departments within our college.

With 100 years of experience, our department fosters educators, communicators and leaders who excel in the agriculture industry.

We have three majors - agricultural communication, agriscience education, and community leadership - that will prepare you for a variety of agriculturally-engaged professions.

Our minors - agricultural communication, community outreach education, leadership studies and youth development - can support your major career goals.

The graduate programs we offer in agricultural and extension education - both in person and online - develop students for leadership, administrative and faculty level positions.

Want more info? Contact us.

online: acel.osu.edu
phone: 614-247-6358
social media: @ACELatOSU
It’s A New World For Lady Farmers
From Ohio State To Ohio Farm Bureau
Playing With Food
One Idea, One Community, One Love
Improving America One Bushel At A Time
Veterinary Feed Directive Brings Change & Challenges

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Do you follow the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences on Instagram? (If not, here’s what you missed!)

### September 2016

**Entry 6 of 32 of the CFAES Study Abroad Photo Contest, 1 vote = 1 entry!** “Hippie: Take the Abol Lives in South Africa but the Love My Heart.” Photo submitted by Shannon Kelly on the South Africa Exotic Animal Behavior and Wildlife Study Abroad Program in Kapama/Limpopo, South Africa.

### October 2016

If you’re interested in building and volunteering internationally, Peace Corps will be conducting a workshop specifically geared to students in Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences on October 5 from 5-6pm in the Ag Admin Building 207.

### November 2016

Today is the final day to apply to Ohio State for early action! The early action application allows you to be eligible for merit based scholarships. Emily Kreinbrink is a sophomore in Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences because it is a small campus, that offers big opportunities. Emily loves being on the University because it is a small campus that offers big university opportunities.

### December 2016

Congratulations to the Food Science and Technology product development team of Anya Arora, Jessica Miao, and Morgan Whitcomb! They’ve been named finalists in the American Society of Baking’s 2017 Product Development Competition. They will attend the final round of competition at the annual AIBS Product Development Competition in February 27-28 in Chicago, IL.

### January 2017

Alpha, Sigma, Piota, a co-ed agricultural honorary fraternity, is currently accepting applications for Class 19. To be eligible, students must be a freshmen or sophomores in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and have a 3.0 GPA or higher. For more information on AISP, check out their website at alphapsiota.osu.edu, or on Facebook or Instagram.

### February 2017

The spring CFAES career expo is Thursday, February 23rd from 11 AM-4 PM at the Ohio Union. Over 317 companies will be in attendance, and all CFAES students are encouraged to attend to network with the companies. You can also get a free professional headshot photo and a free passport photo at the event.

### March 2017

Happy Ohio 4-H! Did you know that 4-H was originally founded in Clark County, right here in Ohio? 4-H is now in all 50 states and open to all youth ages five to instruction, regardless of cultural, economic and social backgrounds.

### CFAES Club Spotlight

**CFAES Faculty Appreciation**

Another notable event hosted by the council is the faculty appreciation breakfast. At the faculty appreciation meal, they cook breakfast and acknowledge the CFAES faculty and staff.

**Youth Leaders Conference**

The fourth annual Young Leaders Conference took place on February 24, 2017, and was put on by the sorority Sigma Alpha and the fraternity Alpha Gamma Rho at the Nationwide Farm Bureau 4-H Center. It is a professional development event for high school students interested in agriculture.

This year, 120 high school students attended to do resume and team building. The event offer professional development opportunities, a mock industry fair experience, and free professional headshots for students. Leah Schwinn, the Young Leaders Conference chairman, said, “It’s a great opportunity for us as college students to be able to give back, and help students that will soon be filling our shoes.”

**Swine Spectacular**

Another large annual event in CFAES is the Swine Spectacular hosted by the Saddle & Sirloin club. This year, they expect around 400 hogs to show. Allison Price, the junior show committee chair, says “[her] favorite part about being in Saddle & Sirloin is the amount of fun we have while still promoting agriculture and doing what we love at school.”

Saddle & Sirloin gives students the opportunity to promote, network and be involved in the industry at the collegiate level.

**Agrilymics**

At the end of every school year, CFAES hosts an “Agrilymics” consisting of games like relay races, tug of war, pie eating and others. This is CFAES Council’s way to end the year and get all of the groups involved, FarmHouse, an agricultural fraternity on campus, took home first place for the third consecutive year in Spring 2016. They await to see if they can make it a four-peat in 2017.

The student council is finding new ways to connect the entire college. The events this year have been bigger than ever, and the college is working hard to build on the ones coming up in the near future.

**Back to School Bash**

CFAES Student Council’s main event is the Back to School Bash. The student council partnered with the Animal Science Community Alliance this year to help make the event even bigger. The annual bash is held at Fred Beckman Park and features a kickball tournament, food and projected movie at night. This year they had over 1,000 attendees, and Ohio State now considers it an official Signature Welcome Week Event.

**CFAES Study Abroad**

Entry 6 of 12 of the CFAES Study Abroad Photo Contest, 1 vote = 1 entry! “Hippie: Take the Abol Lives in South Africa but the Love My Heart.” Photo submitted by Shannon Kelly on the South Africa Exotic Animal Behavior and Wildlife Study Abroad Program in Kapama/Limpopo, South Africa.

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Join us at the 2017 Farm Science Review, where you will have the opportunity to interact with top potential employers and connect with leaders in the agriculture industry.

Student employment available year-round. Contact Matthew Sullivan at sullivan.64@osu.edu for more information.

Earth Week
April 10 – 14
Events include many volunteer opportunities: a workshop with hands on learning for invaders and the Monarch Way Station; Perennial garden planting; and Branch Out Buckeyes with tree planting demonstrations and a free tree to the first 400 participants. Details at ChadwickArboretum.osu.edu.

Arbor Day Celebration of Trees
April 21, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at Kottman Hall
Join us for our annual Arbor Day Celebration of Trees on Friday April 21 at The Ohio State University Kottman Hall. Details at ChadwickArboretum.osu.edu.

Spring Plant Sale & Auction Fundraiser
Open to the public May 12 – 13, 2017
Corner of Lane Avenue and Fred Taylor Drive
Many new and unusual annuals and perennials as well as gift items. Unique tree and shrub auction at 9:00 a.m. daily. Details at ChadwickArboretum.osu.edu.

May 11 is our exclusive, Members-only Presale Preview Party with a unique tree and shrub auction at 6:00 p.m. Become a Member at the gate or today at ChadwickArboretum.osu.edu/become-member
Campbell said that she noticed an implemented at Carroll Creek Farms. Supported Agriculture (CSA) program was her farm to a livestock operation. Her row-crop farm to a livestock operation. Her farm specializes in beef, pork, lambs, chicken and eggs. All products from the farm are antibiotic and growth hormone free. Campbell spends her weekends at a hog farm. After graduating from Ohio State with her aunt Kathleen's 4-H and working on her aunt Kathleen's farm, she continued to help out on the farm as much as possible. “I grew up around production agriculture, but in the workforce it’s like working in a man’s world,” said Moser, reflecting on her experiences after graduating college and starting her career as a seed consultant. “I think being a woman in agriculture may give you an advantage; there is real potential for us to strive and be successful. Moser and her husband John moved to Perrysburg, Ohio, and now farm almost 3,300 acres of corn, soybeans and wheat with her in-laws. During the day Moser is a marketing specialist at Archbold Equipment, but after hours she does all she can on the farm. She runs equipment as much as possible, brings meals to everybody in the operation and now takes care of her 1-year-old daughter Chloe. Moser, 26, is also responsible for the bookkeeping for the operation. “You take for granted what conditions you’ve had on the farm, but you’ve had to farm somewhere completely different,” said Moser. She was able to use the knowledge from her past farming experiences to make grain harvest more efficient in Perrysburg.

Casey Moser’s life since a young age. Production agriculture has influenced her father’s business, W.D. Farms. She was able to use the knowledge from her past farming experiences to make grain harvest more efficient in Perrysburg. Moser, 26, is also responsible for the bookkeeping for the operation. “You take for granted what conditions you’ve had on the farm, but you’ve had to farm somewhere completely different,” said Moser. She was able to use the knowledge from her past farming experiences to make grain harvest more efficient in Perrysburg.

Women are pushing boundaries and exceeding those farm-wife expectations everyday. With statistics growing each year of women in charge of American farms, there are no limits to what they can bring to the table. Next time you head to the grocery store for a fresh selection of produce, thank a farmer—a lady farmer.

FARMER BORN AND RAISED
Production agriculture has influenced Casey Moser’s life since a young age. Growing up on a 1,600-acre crop farm in Plain City, Ohio, there was always work to be done. “I remember working ground and driving the grain cart in the second or third grade,” said Moser. “That’s just how me and my brother were raised, always in a tractor.” While busy with school and other activities, she still set aside her weekends and free time to help. “My parents prided themselves in never having bailed help because I was always in the field,” said Moser. She attended Ohio State majoring in agricultural communication and minor in agronomy. During college she was involved with organizations and obtained experience through internships, but she continued to help out on the farm as much as possible. “I grew up around production agriculture, but in the workforce it’s like working in a man’s world,” said Moser, reflecting on her experiences after graduating college and starting her career as a seed consultant. “I think being a woman in agriculture may give you an advantage; there is real potential for us to strive and be successful. Moser and her husband John moved to Perrysburg, Ohio, and now farm almost 3,300 acres of corn, soybeans and wheat with her in-laws. During the day Moser is a marketing specialist at Archbold Equipment, but after hours she does all she can on the farm. She runs equipment as much as possible, brings meals to everybody in the operation and now takes care of her 1-year-old daughter Chloe. Moser, 26, is also responsible for the bookkeeping for the operation. “You take for granted what conditions you’ve had on the farm, but you’ve had to farm somewhere completely different,” said Moser. She was able to use the knowledge from her past farming experiences to make grain harvest more efficient in Perrysburg.

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UNITED AS WOMEN
Women are coming together to promote their passion for agriculture. There are groups like the Ohio Agri-Women and Ohio’s Annie’s Project that give women the opportunity to share ideas and experiences as a collective and supportive community. “I appreciate the opportunity to be in a room of open women that feel comfortable enough to share and talk about individual operations. These female-only organizations have helped me gain knowledge that will be beneficial to my own family farm,” said Rachael Vonderhaar, president of the Ohio Agri-Women.

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Women are pushing boundaries and exceeding those farm-wife expectations everyday. With statistics growing each year of women in charge of American farms, there are no limits to what they can bring to the table. Next time you head to the grocery store for a fresh selection of produce, thank a farmer—a lady farmer.
Most people do not think about how their food waste is disposed. Food waste is much like any other trash: It gets piled up and shipped to a landfill where it will sit and slowly decompose. However, the food decomposing in the landfills turns into methane gas, which is extremely harmful to the environment.

Brian Roe, Ph.D., director of the Ohio State Food Waste Collaborative, explained how harmful methane gas is for the environment.

“Methane is a greenhouse gas that’s 20 to 30 times more potent than CO₂,” said Roe. Food waste is not an issue to be taken lightly, and some are stepping up to try to stop and reduce the amount of food waste generated.

**Working Together to End Food Waste**

The Food Waste Collaborative at The Ohio State University is leading the charge in trying to reduce food waste. The collaborative comprises of researchers, practitioners and students who are dedicated to solving food waste reduction. The Food Waste Collaborative has teamed up with some local and national partners in order to enhance their research and to educate the public on a broader scale. These partners include Resource 100LTD, a not-for-profit organization promoting environmentally and economically sustainable energy policies and practices, Pennington Biomedical Research Center at Louisiana State University and the Environmental Protection Agency. These organizations are working together to achieve a common goal and to help the environment. However, food waste can be a complex issue, especially when trying to identify and reverse poor food waste habits.

Identifying where the waste comes from is the first step in understanding this complex issue.

**Convincing Consumers to Waste Less**

Food waste can come from a few different sources, such as business waste, institutional waste and consumer waste. The Food Waste Collaborative’s main focus is on the consumer end of food waste; this means dealing with any food waste thrown away by a consumer at a house, at a restaurant or at an event. The collaborative’s focus is on two processes of reducing food waste: reduction and diversion. Reduction focuses on cutting the amount of food consumers purchase so that it never becomes waste. Diversion targets where food goes after it is purchased and has gone bad. Ohio State is taking steps to reduce the amount of waste generated on campus and at university events. Ohio State has started a Zero Waste program to try to eliminate the waste generated from residence halls, dining halls and community events.

The Food Waste Collaborative at Ohio State is taking strides to educate the public and is doing tremendous research to reduce food waste. Even with the strides being taken by the collaborative it will take more than just one team to change our food waste habits. Although food waste is a growing concern, everyone has the ability to make a small change today to make a big difference tomorrow.
T\nder the beginning of the 20th century.

true just as they did since their origination

within the college. There are no financial

about 30 students with various majors

The steering committee is comprised of

select group of faculty, staff and students.

countless hours of time and effort by a

The event turned into more of a production

banquet dedication developed and the

program and banquet. The theme and

students should occur not only during this

students, parents, faculty, staff and other

In the past, the program’s theme has

throughout the academic year.

students' opinions and respecting

communication within the

appropriately for the occasion. Others

expressed concern that only certain

students were being recognized and, overall,

the evening lacked an acceptable level of

IT’S TIME TO COME TOGETHER

“The original format of the recognition

program fit very well for a very long time

because it fit our audience and our

students body,” said Marilyn Trefz, Ph.D.

She is serving her 19th year as an advisor

for the steering committee. “We are now

creating a new experience, and hopefully

a significantly different experience, as folks

will realize we listened to what they had to

say,” Trefz continued.

One of the items that will be updated

this year is the physical arrangement of the

The goal is to create

process. This year it was updated to an

interest form to be all encompassing

of majors and departments. The

revised Outstanding Senior application

allocates space for students to tell their

personal stories and unique college

experiences. From one essay to now four,

the application lets students promote

themselves in the areas of academics,

service, influence and reflection.

The steering committee is comprised of

students with various majors

beneath the “Ag B-B-Q” took

place in Plumb Hall. At the event

the college acknowledged student success

and marked the singular “Outstanding Man”

award, known today as the “Outstanding

Senior” award. Over the years, the “Ag

B-B-Q” evolved into a recognition program

and banquet. The theme and banquet
dedication developed and the event turned

into more of a production than a picnic.

Today, the banquet is an event that

requires a large expenditure and
countless hours of time and effort by a

select group of faculty, staff and students.

The steering committee is comprised of

about 30 students with various majors

within the college. There are no financial

reserves, and the event’s account starts at

zero each year – the entirety is funded by

student solicitations and ticket sales.

Linda Martin, Ph.D., associate dean of

academic affairs in CFAES, described the

benefits of a student-led group organizing

an event of this size. “The students

involved in the planning are learning a

lot about time management, fundraising,

communication, coordination, teamwork

and a greater understanding of themselves

and what they bring to the table in terms of

strengths and skills,” Martin said.

Shortly after the 63rd recognition

program and banquet in spring 2016, the

college received requests for change and

new ideas that encouraged a different way

of thinking about the evening. About 30

faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate

students representative of almost all

academic units from the college attended a

brainstorming session. From this gathering

came over 20 pages of notes with positive

and negative feedback regarding the

responses pointed out that an ostentatious

theme has made students and visitors

feel out of place if they were not dressed

appropriately for the occasion. Others

expressed concern that only certain

students were being recognized and, overall,

the evening lacked an acceptable level of

IT’S A CELEBRATION!

Along with the new philosophy of

celebration other than recognition, more

commemorative actions and events

are in the works. CFAES alumni and

project manager Jill Arnett will lead the

pay tribute to students through various

endeavors since there is just not enough

time in one evening. “We celebrate students every single day,” said Martin. However, she mentioned the importance of purposely celebrating

students during this time period around

the banquet. “Students first” has always

been a hallmark of this college.”

Alterations have been made to the

largest student-run event on campus, but

at least one challenge remains. Warren

Flood, Ph.D., assessment coordinator for

CFAES and Trefz’s co-advisor for the

event, said, “The perception is I’m not

receiving an award. [The program] has no

relevance to me.” We need to change the

perception. It’s not an awards ceremony.

It’s a celebration of students.”

The evening is a celebration where each student is invited to attend regardless of campus location, major or level of involvement. The new

Celebration of Students effort is just what this college needed to more comprehensively recognize and appreciate the many things that they do,” said Trefz.

The 2017 Celebration of Students will take place April 6 in the Archie Griffin Ballroom of the Ohio Union. The theme “Our Story” was selected to holistically highlight the achievements of the college.

No matter what changes do or do not take place this year, it is important not to forget what is truly wonderful about the college. “One of the most amazing things about students and staff all come together, and there’s this sense of family,” said Martin. “Student involvement is a partnership between parents, staff, faculty and students—that’s what we’re really celebrating.”

“We need to quit celebrating the numbers and start thinking about the [students’] impact.”
From Ohio State

Alumnus Adam Sharp shares his vision for OFBF

STORY BY: MALLORIE WIPPEL • ORIENT, OH

Adam Sharp flipped through the 2016 issue of the AgriNaturalist he worked on his time as a student working on the magazine. Time did surely show how much things have changed since he walked the halls of the Agricultural Administration Building more than 23 years ago. “This is a lot better than what we used to do,” Sharp said as he saw years ago. “This is a lot better than what we used to do.”

As an agricultural communication student working on the AgriNaturalist, Sharp didn’t know that almost 25 years later he would be a feature story.

With a smile on his face and memories in his mind, Sharp uses what he learned as a student in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University as he looks into the future as the new executive vice president of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF).

Growing up on his family farm, in Amanda, Ohio, Sharp’s passion for the industry grew early on. Sharp graduated from Amanda Clearcreek High School where his ag education teacher, Chuck Miller, made an impact on him. “Chuck would ask me what I wanted to do, and I told him that I had an interest in politics and agriculture,” said Sharp. “I had no idea I was going to have a career in it.”

Sharp graduated from Ohio State in 1994 with a major in agricultural communication and a minor in internation communication and social development. Taking his electives in political science, he knew that he wanted a future in agriculture policy. Sharp’s resume found its way to his contacts in Washington D.C., and Sharp’s resume found its way to the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF).

Sharp worked seven years with AFBF as a communications intern and a governmental relations specialist. “I interned during the summer of 1995 and never came back [to Ohio] for 10 years,” Sharp said. When George W. Bush became president in January 2001, Sharp was asked by the administration to take a political appointment at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He worked at the EPA for four years before making the decision to return to his roots. Sharp said, “I wanted to raise my kids here on the family farm versus D.C.”

After leaving D.C. to return to Ohio, Sharp found the home that he didn’t know he had at OFBF. Sharp first worked as a federal lobbyist and then became the vice president of policy. On May 10, 2016, his role changed again when the OFBF Board of Trustees announced Sharp as the sixth executive vice president.

Going Forward

Going into OFBF’s 88th year, Sharp has a vision. He wants to focus on a team culture, including maintaining strong partnerships between county, state and the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). Sharp plans to protect the Ohio agriculture and food branding and logo. Sharp plans to protect the Ohio agriculture and food community. OFBF will be a more inclusive organization, he said, by planning who OFBF wants to be. “Ag advocacy will still be the core of that new plan,” said Lyons. With Sharp at the helm, Lyons is excited to see where the membership component of OFBF goes.

Making New Pathways

A main point in Sharp’s vision is creating a more inclusive organization. Melinda Witten, director of leadership programming and alumni of Ohio State, is working with Sharp to create a strong Young Agriculture Professionals (YAP) membership. Witten and Sharp both started at OFBF around the same time and have advanced through the organization together. “We need to be the chief advocate for agriculture in Ohio,” said Sharp.

Focus on Members

Sharp prides the organization on being “the eyes and ears” for farmers and the agriculture community. At the core of Ohio Farm Bureau lays its members. Senior Director of Membership, and alumni of Ohio State, Paul Lyons works with county organization directors and the membership team at the OFBF office state to help meet members’ needs.

“He’s always been about that member for me. That’s what excites me about the organization,” said Lyons. He believes that OFBF is an important part in solving their problems. With the industry getting more diverse, Lyons said that now is a perfect opportunity to reach a new audience and tell them more about who OFBF is. Policy remains at OFBF’s foundation. “Ag advocacy will still be the core of that new plan,” said Lyons. With Sharp at the helm, Lyons is excited to see where the membership component of OFBF goes.

Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training (FACT) is a training course provided by Ohio State Extension to help farmers fulfill the education requirements of Ohio’s new Fertilizer Applicator Certification program. OFBF supports FACT in funding and resources.

Helping students succeed is a mutual priority. OFBF supports students with internships and scholarships. For example, OFBF awarded eight students in the Multicultural Students in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) organization scholarships to attend the YAP Conference in February. “Going forward there will certainly be more [projects] and continue key partnerships,” said Sharp.

“We need to be thinking about the next one hundred years,” said Sharp. He plans to lead the charge of OFBF into that future. With the skills, professional development and lifelong friendships that he gained during his time at Ohio State, he is ready for the challenge.
Join us on the journey
We believe in food grown in the fields of Ohio...
In clean air and water and in preserving farmland, forever.
We believe in opportunities for the next generation.
Together with farmers.

BECOME A YOUNG ACTIVE FARM BUREAU MEMBER

ATTEND professional development, networking and learning opportunities with the Young Agricultural Professionals (YAP) program www.experienceyap.com

PARTICIPATE IN leadership and travel opportunities if serving on the YAP State Committee.

TAKE PART in Farm Bureau’s local, state and national policy development process. Advocate for food and farming at the Ohio Statehouse and in Washington, D.C.

STAY CONNECTED and even share your own story through online communities, including the Growing Our Generation e-newsletter www.experienceyap.com/subscribe

#TAKEOVERTUESDAY on Ohio Farm Bureau’s Instagram where members can share their stories by sharing a day in their life on the farm and on the job.

REPRESENT Ohio agriculture and win GREAT prizes through the Outstanding Young Farmer, Excellence in Agriculture and Discussion Meet contests.

GROW your leadership skills with AgriPOWER Institute, an elite year-long program designed specifically for farmers and agribusiness professionals.

PLAN the Land and Living Exhibit at the Ohio State Fair that demonstrates agriculture’s link to everyday life.

TogetherWithFarmers.org

I was looking for something to continue the leadership and professional development and networking opportunities that programs like 4-H and FFA provided when I was younger. Ohio Farm Bureau provides that through its Young Ag Professional program, and many other opportunities, conferences and activities.

— Tim Terrill, Montgomery County
Imagine stepping onto The Ohio State University campus in 1917. The Main Library is newly constructed and still gleams with innovation. Telephones are an uncommon luxury, and students handwrite every assignment. The campus is much smaller, and crowded buses are unnecessary for transportation. Ohio Stadium is still an architectural drawing, not yet occupying the banks of the Olentangy River. And following a 1911 state law that required agricultural education in public schools, vocational agriculture and outreach education are just emerging as areas of study.

An Ohio State student’s experience today is extremely different than a century ago. While education and technology continue to change, outreach and communication still shape agriculture. The Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership (ACEL) has worked hard to promote the time-honored tradition of human and community resource development to recognize the different majors.

Rural sociology moved from the department in 1973 and added to the department. In the 1990s rural sociology left the Department of Agricultural Economics and joined the agricultural education department. At the same time, the department changed its name from the Department of Agricultural Education to the Department of Human and Community Resource Development to recognize the different majors.

The faculty, staff and students of ACEL continue to change, outreach and communication still shape agriculture. The Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership (ACEL) has transformed drastically over the past 100 years and will continue to change over the many years that will follow: continuously finding new ways to advance the department, students and curriculum. ACEL is always looking ahead and asking questions to better the department for the next generation.

In 2011 the department focused on agriculture and Home Economics and being at the forefront of vocational agriculture-funding in Ohio, Vivian wanted to make sure Ohio capitalized on federal funding and worked with the governor and board of trustees to create the department just months after the Smith-Hughes Act passed. When you look at other universities, agricultural education was started in colleges of education and career tech areas like family and consumer science,” said Tracy Kitchel, Ph.D, professor and ACEL department chair. “Our dean said, “We are going to have one and it is going to be here in my college.”

The department expanded and changed throughout the years. At its creation in 1917, the department focused on agricultural education and then began to shift toward outreach. The agricultural communication major was created in 1933 and added to the department. In the 1990s rural sociology left the Department of Agricultural Economics and joined the agricultural education department.

To find ways to celebrate 100 years of existence, the ACEL department has put together a steering committee made up of staff, students and alumni. The committee is collaborating with Buckholder-Flint, a marketing agency, to find ways to educate and reach out to the public throughout 2017. “We want to make sure to incorporate the celebration into events like homecoming, the college banquet and the department banquet,” said Emily Wickham, ACEL student services coordinator. “We don’t want to have one big event, we want to celebrate this milestone throughout the year.”

The committee plans to use the time between January and May 2017 to create a calendar of events for summer and autumn 2017. The plan is to advertise and highlight the centennial and anniversary celebrations at the Ohio 4-H Conference, Ohio FFA Convention and American Association for Agricultural Education events.

Tom Stewart, ACEL lecturer and committee member, is excited to see the planning come together in the next few months and get more students involved. “Right now, we are still in the early stages of planning and want to get everything put into place for the anniversary in July,” said Stewart. “We don’t have anything set in stone yet, but there are many sub-committees working on different aspects of the celebration to make sure ACEL is represented well throughout the year.”

In addition to using outreach at events, and having representation across the college at annual banquets, the committee is putting together an endowment for the department.

“The goal of this endowment would be to give resources to faculty to really think and rethink how we put together our curriculum, our courses or what we teach in those courses,” said Kitchel. “This endowment would really give us a way to try to be at the cutting edge of our teaching and academic programs.” Ideally, this endowment would become available to department educators within the next three years. Technology and resources are constantly changing and this endowment would ensure that the ACEL department stays relevant and effective in its teaching efforts.

The future is bright

Over the last few years, the way society relates with agriculture has changed drastically. The ACEL department wants to continue to enhance the way it interacts, communicates and educates the public over the next 100 years through the research, demographics and skill sets of their department faculty, students and staff.

“Less than two percent of the United States’ population is engaged in agriculture, so our expectation is that agriculture is not a form of agricultural background,” said Kitchel. “There is a lot of misinformation and myths out there, and the more people we bring into our world, the better.

The ACEL department continues to be at the forefront of research and innovation. The ACEL department continues to complete this mission by collaborating with other CFAES departments to help enhance research efforts, as well as to continue research on their own. “We have members of our faculty working with the AEDE [Agricultural, Environmental, Development Economics] department on food waste research,” said Kitchel. “They are using their talents to help understand a complex issue and eventually educate others about the problem.”

The faculty, staff and students of ACEL have a special ability to interact with consumers. Finding ways to use these talents and collaborate more with other departments to complete their mission is a goal ACEL has in the coming years. Some of these ideas include creating more workshops, leadership conferences and finding effective ways to connect with the public through different media platforms.

Nothing is more constant than change. ACEL has transformed drastically over the past 100 years and will continue to change over the many years that will follow: continuously finding new ways to advance the department, students and curriculum. ACEL is always looking ahead and asking questions to better the department for the next generation.

Remembering the past, appreciating the present and looking toward the future.
In my mind career technical education is a real-life approach to learning,” said Cassandra Palsgrove, the Ohio Department of Education education program specialist for the Office of Career Technical Education or CTE. CTE courses have a direct correlation to a real world scenario, and the curriculum provides application to academic subjects. “You can easily answer, ‘Why am I learning this?’ Real-life career skills and real life skills,” said Palsgrove.

In the state of Ohio career technical education is an avenue that students are able to take to expand on their education and career pathways. The CTE process is centered on work force development, giving students a look at future opportunities with a rigorous but relatable program. The programs vary from agriculture to cosmetology, and from nursing to emergency medical services. In the state of Ohio alone there are 610,000 students from ninth to 12th grade, and out of those students there are over 121,000 enrolled in CTE courses. Out those enrolled in CTE courses over 20 percent of them are enrolled in an agricultural or environmental systems program.

APPROACH

These courses allow students to apply what they are learning directly into their everyday life and eventually into the workforce. By focusing more on applied skills, students are being guided to think about what they will do for the rest of their lives, and what they need to do to get there. CTE allows students to take control of their education, putting their schooling back into their own hands, and allowing them to direct where their course work will take them, whether that is post-secondary education or directly into the workforce.

APPLICATION

“When I came out of my first soils judging contest, I never knew it would influence me in my future career,” said Katherine Bell, an agriscience education student at The Ohio State University. Currently in her third year, she always knew she wanted to be in the education system but never knew what subject she wanted to teach; that is, until she became engaged in her agricultural courses. From the public speaking contest to soil judging, Bell never realized how much those contents would be applicable in her life further on.

“I didn’t actually realize when I was doing the contest what it was actually teaching me,” Bell said. “At the time I just enjoyed getting out of class and spending time with my friends.” Now, when looking back at those experiences, Bell explained that it has prepared her to speak confidently in front of peers, students and employers.

Amanda Atterholt, current Smithville High School FFA advisor, explained similar benefits that students and parents have expressed to her about the content related to her CTE courses. The ability for the students to interact and gain relations with people already working and involved in the agricultural industry is a huge benefit.

The Ohio Department of Education’s goal is to increase the number of students in Ohio enrolled in a CTE courses, because all graduating students will need to get a job after graduation, whether upon graduation from college or high school. Every student will need a job, therefore why wouldn’t every student take advantage of the experiences that CTE courses offer?”
This one mishap did not stop McCracken until she returned home that it was actually Sunday morning, and the interviewers caught her mistake. This one mishap did not stop McCracken until she returned home that it was actually Sunday morning, and the interviewers caught her mistake. McCracken was asked a series of rapid-fire questions regarding the university’s policies and procedures. Still overwhelmed, she was beginning her first interview to help with the process. She was beginning her first interview to help with the process. McCracken is the third student in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) to hold the undergraduate representative on the Board of Trustees. As an active member of both university-level organizations like Ohio States, Inc. and SPHINX Senior Class honorary and college-level organizations like Alpha Tau Zeta (now FarmHouse Fraternity), Shultz credits CFAES for helping him bring a new perspective to the board.

As a trustee, Shultz worked on an initiative to improve faculty/student interactions and relationships. “One of the things we do really well in CFAES is that every student has the opportunity to interact with faculty and advisors in a meaningful way,” Shultz said. “Other colleges didn’t have that same opportunity.” Shultz’s tenure also included large-scale decisions about building the Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC) and the new Ohio Union and remodeling Thompson Library. Shultz uses a lot of the skills from his term in his current job in Washington, D.C. “I don’t deal with the same issues, but [my tenure on the board] gave me this taste for working with big institutions and making things better when you leave them than when you entered,” Shultz said.

Shultz ended his time as a trustee in 2003 after he graduated from Ohio State and took his career into politics, using his experiences to benefit the future of agriculture. Shultz said. “But I forgot my socks. All I remember is my buddy, Doug, running back to his apartment so he could give me a pair of his black socks.”

There was one pivotal moment between Schaefer and a board member, the Honorable Algenon Marbley, that had a lasting effect to this day. “We had just left one of our meetings, and he could tell I cared about some issue passionately but was too shy to speak up.” Schaefer said. “He told me, ‘If you are silent we don’t hear the voice of the thousands of students here.’” Schaefer said that gave her the confidence she needed to discuss complex issues in those meetings, and to continue speak up today on behalf of clients, stakeholders and friends. The confidence she gained is applicable to any student. “Having the confidence to speak up in a constructive way was huge!” she said. “If you can do it in a room with influential people and know that your voice was heard, you can do it anywhere!”

While the board may have been a position that added to Schaefer’s undergraduate experience, the confidence gained contributed to the rest of her life.

During McCracken’s term, she had the opportunity to interview Dr. Michael Drake in his pursuit of becoming president of Ohio State. “To actually sit on an interview in which the candidate knew everything about me and knew my background and that I grew up on a farm was very interesting,” McCracken said. “I think I was more nervous for the interview than he was.” McCracken took the skills that she developed in college and during her term to Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association (OCWGA), where she served as the communication manager for two years. “I realize now, that no matter how much I didn’t want to be known as the ‘farm girl,’ that was my area of expertise,” McCracken said. “I need it on the Board of Trustees and I took my area of knowledge to OCWGA, where I served on multiple boards and continued to advocate for agriculture.” Shultz, Schaefer and McCracken are all examples of students who used their undergraduate experiences as a stepping-stone for their careers. A daunting interview process for each of these students led to a fruitful tenure on the Board of Trustees, and they continue to use this experience to make decisions and advocate for agriculture and change the world for those around them.

Staten, a 2001-2003 and 2007-2009 student trustee, was active in many organizations such as Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, CFAES Student Council, CFAES Student Farm Alliance, and the Undergraduate Student Government. McCracken credits her college with giving back, which is what helped propel me into the position.” McCracken ended his term as a trustee in 2003 after he graduated from Ohio State and took his career into politics, using his experiences to benefit the future of agriculture.
Each year new members are selected to participate in a series of four seminars focused on fostering personal and professional growth, including a six-week education abroad experience in Brazil.

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**Connect with us** — applications available in January
Imagine relaxing on a nice warm summer day, sipping a cool glass of iced tea or chocolate, just a few of the flavors consumers enjoy. Nestled among The College of Food, Agricultural, Environmental, and Economic Sciences, FREC is housed in the Parker Food Science and Technology building.

Program director Devin Peterson, Ph.D., said, “The center is a spot for the food industry to come together as a community and help solve larger challenges to promote healthier foods that you want to be eating. [This research is] not for one company… but for a whole industrial ecosystem.”

Corn, chocolate, oats, coffee, hazelnuts, potato chips, jam—just a few of the foods that researchers have analyzed.

Corn is critical in the diet. However, it’s not only eating enough fruits and vegetables, but you have to enjoy it. "Many consumers, food acceptability and what consumers deem tasty play a major role and advice from FREC to improve their formulations. Some member food companies have already used research and advice from FREC to improve their products.

Food is something that is a key factor in our lives. While health and wellness are what some people say drives their food choice, the reality is that the main drivers of food choice are cost, convenience and flavor quality. Although wanting to eat healthy is a common sentiment among many consumers, food acceptability and what consumers deem tasty play a significant role in what foods consumers tend to eat. As Kokkinidou said, “It’s all about balance. You have to eat well and feel well, but you have to enjoy it.”
**TOP 5 MILK QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

1. **IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORGANIC & REGULAR MILK?**
   - No. In terms of quality, safety and nutrition, there’s no difference between organic and regular milk. The difference is how they are produced on the farm.

2. **ARE THERE ANTIBIOTICS IN MY MILK?**
   - No. All milk – both regular and organic – is tested for antibiotics. Cows sometimes get sick and require medicine, but their milk does not go into the milk supply. If milk tests positive for antibiotics, it is disposed of and never enters the food stream. Less than 0.02% of all milk tested last year ever had an issue.

3. **IS RAW (UNPASTEURIZED) MILK SAFE TO DRINK?**
   - No. Milk should be pasteurized, it’s a matter of food safety. Pasteurization is a simple, effective method to kill potentially harmful bacteria without affecting the taste or nutritional value of milk.

4. **ARE THERE HORMONES ADDED TO MY MILK?**
   - No. Hormones are naturally present in many foods of plant and animal origin, including milk. Some farmers choose to supplement their cows with rbST, an FDA-approved synthetic hormone, to help with milk production. Science shows that it is safe for cows and has no effect on humans or the hormone levels in the milk itself.

5. **ARE THERE GMOS IN MY MILK?**
   - No. Some cows eat feed containing genetically engineered corn and soybeans which cows digest the same way as they do non-GMO grains. Genetically engineered DNA has never been detected in milk derived from cows fed GMOs.

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Sources: Drink-Milk.com/TopMilkQuestions.pdf

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**American Dairy Association MIDEAST**

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**President | Austin Brown**

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"Preparing men for life by: coming together as scholars, living as brothers and becoming the leaders of tomorrow."
What do you do when you can’t sleep? Some people count sheep, some read and some come up with ideas to make the world a better place. For one woman, that meant contemplating what she could do to improve the culture of acceptance within her college.

Kelly Newlon is the director of education abroad in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University. She is the creator of the One Love campaign, a movement initiated due to the tension from the presidential election. Sitting at a table outside her office in the Agricultural Administration Building, Newlon explained how she came up with the idea for this campaign.

“Essentially there was a lot of strife on campus related to the elections, and there were a lot of people, both for and against President Trump, who were not feeling positive about the turmoil surrounding it,” Newlon said. “I had been lying in bed at night thinking about what could change, what might be needed, what could be useful. The idea was simply a statement that this college is no place for hate.”

Several key CFAES staff and faculty members held a meeting on Nov. 14, 2016, to address the rise in instances of bias and harassment during the presidential election. Together they brainstormed ideas to improve the culture of the college. The result was the One Love campaign, which is a part of a larger strategy to address student inclusion.

There are university-wide efforts to promote these ideas through the use of hashtags #BuckeyeStrong and #BuckeyeLove on social media. The day after the violent incident on Nov. 28, 2016, Ohio State held an event called Buckeye Strong as a way for students, faculty, and staff to continue healing. The #BuckeyeLove Day of Giving campaign on Feb. 14 and Feb. 15, 2017, allowed alumni, students, and others to support the Office of Diversity and Inclusion as the coordinator of two different peer-mentoring programs as part of the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation.

“#BuckeyeLove on social media. The sentiment and expertise give her a unique perspective, allowing her to offer support to the campaign.

“I think that CFAES and food production and environmental systems are inherently linked to issues of social justice,” Murray said. “As we’re thinking about the role that food has in building community, and agriculture has in building community, it’s a logical fit for something like this to come out of CFAES. I think that it reflects a lot of things that people have been thinking and feeling but maybe didn’t have the words to say.”

The campaign is still in its infancy, but it is already starting to grow as more students become involved. The first student meeting was held on Dec. 1, 2016. Newlon continues to serve as the main source of leadership, with Murray in a supporting role in order to provide resources and advice to students.

“The idea is to make it a student-driven campaign, for students, by students,” Murray said. “I think that is one of the coolest things; Kelly had an idea but she put the idea at the feet of the students, who are now going to take it in whatever direction they wish.”

Students Making an Impact

Two students who helped with the initial promotion of the campaign are Olivia Carros, a third-year in environmental policy and journalism, and Marisa Twigg, a third-year in environmental policy and journalism. Carros and Twigg worked with Newlon to create marketing materials for the campaign. So far they have made over 100 buttons with the words “One Love” and “CFAES is no place for hate” emblazoned around a buckeye. All of the buttons were dispersed to students within a week. Carros is enthusiastic about the potential impact of this campaign to promote diversity and inclusion within the CFAES community.

“I think it goes both ways, as you can include some of your ideas in the campaign and the campaign can influence you to be even more open minded than you previously thought you were,” Carros said. “I think short term we just want more exposure to these buttons, first and foremost, because if people keep seeing people wearing these buttons they’ll be like, ‘this community is something that really stands for love and stands for tolerance.’ We’re hoping everyone will come together in the community.”

Twigg said she hopes that, in the long run, the campaign results in hands-on activities, such as diversity and inclusion trainings, bystander trainings and public forums to discuss opposing ideologies.

“My standpoint is that there is only so much that a button and an info sheet or presentation can do,” Twigg said. “What we can present all the facts, but if we don’t engage with people on an emotional level, we’re not actually going to be able to have a shift in culture here. If we aren’t consistently engaging in conversation on these really difficult, sensitive topics, we’re not going to make change, because people need time to grow.”

Continuing the Momentum

Another meeting for students to continue to work toward these goals took place on Jan. 25, 2017. One student after another voiced ideas on how to expand the campaign: From a Snapchat filter to a panel discussion, the ideas are endless.

Preparations have begun to expand with the CFAES Student Council to make more buttons. From one woman’s idea to a full-fledged student-led campaign, the effort to increase inclusion and diversity within CFAES has begun.

“We talk very much about the college being a family and serving the students well,” Newlon said. “I think this campaign is my dream of us having all students feel that they are a part of that. We wanted everyone to feel a part of the family, regardless of which side of politics, or feeling about national movements at this point you are. This place, our buildings, our location on campus, our social settings are just no place for anyone to feel unwelcome.”

Story by: Megan Besancon • Sterling, OH

Olive Carros makes One Love buttons in the Ohio Union Resource Room. Photo by: Kelly Newlon

Marisa Twigg, a third-year in environmental policy and journalism, holds up a One Love campaign button. Photo by: Kelly Newlon
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2016 was a big year for American crop farmers, setting records for total yield among nearly all species of crops with corn being at the forefront. Every year, the majority of the corn harvested in the United States is turned into livestock feed or is exported to other countries. Since 2005, the amount of corn that goes to ethanol production has skyrocketed, and ethanol now ranks as the number one use of American corn. With ethanol production rates rising consistently and new plants being built across the country, Ohio continues to compete as one of the leading states in ethanol production. BETTER LATE THAN NEVER: OHIO JOINS THE ETHANOL PARTY Mark Drewes, Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association (OCWGA) board member, defined ethanol as the leading biofuel produced in the world as renewable, environmentally friendly and the best oxygenate for modern fuel production. “Ohio came late to the ethanol party due to overzealous regulations as compared to neighboring states,” Drewes said. “But our location to the eastern seaboard and heavy fuel usage in the eastern U.S. now gives us an advantage. We have abundant corn, water and also many refineries and infrastructure that now gives Ohio an advantage.”

The ethanol industry directly contributes more than $536 million in economic impact in Ohio alone, and the industry has since supported over 400,000 jobs across the country. American ethanol has also contributed $44 billion to the United States’ gross domestic product. Ohio State agribusiness and applied economics graduate Josh Yoder, Ethanol Advisory Team member for the U.S. Grains Council, said, “In the past six months, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members have been trying to manipulate the price of oil through cutting production and attempting to drive up the price. Ethanol has proven to be an important component in helping insulate the U.S. to some degree from that kind of behavior.”

On the Ethanol Advisory Team, Yoder, along with other farmer members and ethanol industry members, strategizes efforts to promote ethanol exports throughout the world. Yoder is also on the Ohio Corn Checkoff board. “It is 100 percent produced in America and gives us national security and economic benefits,” said Drewes. “Ethanol is the biggest success story ever for American agriculture and the profitability of farmers.”

"[Ethanol] is truly an American success story."
harvest: [har-vist]
noun: a crop or yield of one growing season
**VETERINARY FEED DIRECTIVE Brings Change and Challenges**

**STORY BY: ELIZABETH OVERHOLT • GLENNOMT, OH**

For most people, going to the doctor to receive an antibiotic is easier said than done. It requires a phone call to the doctor, an hour of waiting for what seems like hours in the waiting room and then going into the examination room to see a doctor. Finally, on the recommendation of the doctor, a prescription is written that requires you to head to the pharmacy. It’s a serious process, and one that is becoming all too familiar in the animal industry.

As of Jan. 1, 2017, purchasing feed with antibiotics that are critically important to humans will require a veterinary feed directive (VFD). This new rule prevents animal producers from purchasing over-the-counter antibiotics for feed use without the consent of a veterinarian.

The document must contain specific information like the name of the producer and the veterinarian, dosage amounts, expiration dates, number of animals and a signature of the veterinarian, in order for the document to be considered lawful.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) created the directive because of the issue of antibiotic resistance. Officials believe that overuse of antibiotics in animals could lead to the carrying of bacteria in humans in the future. Therefore, drugs that are important to the health of humans are listed under the directive rule.

This rule will no longer allow antibiotics to be used for growth promotion or feed efficiency.

LJK: Kathy Laiming of Rolling Mill Veterinary Services has worked with his local producers to help them understand the new regulation and the ramifications of it. He has seen firsthand the many misconceptions people have about this new directive. “The ultimate goal of the FDA is to try to prevent antibiotic resistance of bacteria,” said Laiming. “It prevents people from using antibiotics when it’s not necessary and it will help direct people on the correct way to use antibiotics with feed.”

FORCING RELATIONSHIPS

The implementation of the directive has created new challenges for veterinarians and their staffs, producers and feed mills. Amco Smith works at East Holmes Vet Clinic as a clinic specialist. She is responsible for managing all different doctors forms that were written by veterinarians at the clinic.

However, the new rule has created a need to handle it through, including learning a new system, adding more clients and keeping additional records. We are amounting our clients in as well as our own, said Smith. “It’s very stressful that we have been doing this work for 4 and 5 years, but it’s still us.”

EDUCATION IS KEY

Dr. Mary Paterson, a veterinarian at the University of Minnesota, has seen the changes that come with the directive as both a producer and an educator. He said that the people are most affected by this new directive are small farmers and feed mills and feed mill producers. She said that the people who are most affected by this new directive are small farmers and feed mills and feed mill producers.

“For us, it is about giving back to the local veterinarians. It’s about the people that are affected by this new directive are small farmers and feed mills and feed mill producers.”

For more information about the Veterinary Feed Directive, visit fda.gov.
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Martin Nominates Three National Teaching Award Winners

STORY BY: MINDI BROOKHART • WAYNESFIELD, OH

A t the Ohio State University, one doesn’t have to travel far to find pride. Whether standing on the Oval, inside the ‘Shoe or waiting for the next CABS bus, just looking left or right will reveal a satisfying answer. This pride reaches deeper and spreads further inside classrooms and lecture halls. Specifically, the faculty, staff and students that make Buckeyes unique reflect beyond campus.

In November 2016, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) found Ohio State to be worthwhile as well. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) awarded three College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) educators Excellence in College and University Teaching awards. This isn’t the first time CFAES has produced award winners and surely will not be the last.

“This award reflects that our faculty has demonstrated excellence in teaching, advising and mentoring within our academic units,” said Linda Martin, Ph.D., the CFAES associate dean and director of academic affairs. “The award is about more than just agriculture. It’s ag, natural sciences, and environmental sciences, and related areas so these colleges are very broad nationally. All of the disciplines can be recognized—every little mix possible and that is what makes it a big deal.”

**NOMINATION PROCESS**

Martin worked and committed to nominate the three recipients by not only admiring their traditional ways of teaching, but the innovative and engaging ways they reach students. To begin, the selected recipients received recognition at the college, university and regional levels before gaining the privilege to be recommended for this highest award.

“Some people who have consistently and have broadly been recognized in lots of different venues,” Martin said. Noted opportunities include working with student organizations, initiatives, mentoring and student advising meaning that teaching is about everything during normal classroom hours and long after and into the weekend.

**YOUR WINNERS**

“I think it [this award] shows that we are, in terms of education, on the right path to providing a really good educational experience for our students,” said Brian Lower, Ph.D., U.S. North Central Region recipient of this award. Lower is an associate professor in the School of Environmental and Natural Resources. Also recognized for the regional award was Emily Buck, Ph.D., associate professor of agricultural communication. The Ohio State recipient of the national award was Ann Christy, Ph.D., professor of food, agricultural and biological engineering.

Lower grew up in a family of teachers. From a young age he appreciated the responsibility of shaping the minds of young people. “What you tell them will help them make decisions now and in the future so I see it as a way to facilitate my students to reach their goals,” Lower said. “Meeting with students, even just emailing them or speaking for a few minutes to talk about what they’re facing makes the difference.” Passing by or stopping to answer a question, he noted really showcases our faculty’s availability to students. “We have a huge campus and to me, making sure the students are successful is what I find rewarding,” said Lower.

**MARTIN’S PRIDE RUNS DEEP**

This award goes further than the college, as well as the university, and shows the nation what CFAES educators are capable of. After obtaining her own bachelor’s degree from Ohio State, Martin is now nearing her tenth year in her current position. Extremely proud of the great accomplishments and advancements within CFAES, she commends the faculty’s ability to influence students. Martin said, “They are people that are paving it forward every day.” Her pride for Ohio State runs deep.

“Something that just jumps out at you, is that they are all very humble people,” said Martin when speaking on the three award winners. “They’re appreciative of the opportunity to teach, they love students, and it’s not about them—it really is about the students.” That’s another piece that makes the faculty stand out—people who rise up to that level. Reaching beyond not only the noted three, for all faculty within CFAES, it isn’t about them. It is about making a difference.

“There are a lot of great teachers in our college,” said Buck. “Dr. Martin’s support and faith in what I do is why working at Ohio State is so amazing.”

**Winners**

2016 Winners of USDA-APLU Award from L to R: Ann Christy, Emily Buck, Brian Lower, John Ewing, Elizabeth Applegate, Nicole Siedman, Eric McLamore, Rebecca Lawver

Lower is the instructor for an introduction to environmental science course. Being a general education class, he considers it nearly his favorite because he gets to interact with a broad group of students with different majors and backgrounds. This course gives him the opportunity to communicate with a diverse audience. He credits this to making him a better scientist and granting him the ability to practice breaking down complex ideas to people that may not have a similar science background. Students feel comfortable when they can go to the store and know what some of these terms mean, and Lower works to encourage and educate them so they can make their own decisions beyond his class.

“As a whole, I think this award is more of a reflection,” said Lower. “Teaching this many students you can’t just have one person standing up there lecturing, you have to have support from TAs, graduate students, teaching associates to help put stuff together, e-designers.”

For Buck, the idea of teaching didn’t come until finishing her master’s degree. “I found quickly I could connect to the students,” Buck said. “One of them asked if I was going to be a teacher. At that moment, I wasn’t and said no but that student showed me the difference I made in her life and I knew I needed to become a teacher.”

**Past Teaching Award Recipients from Ohio State**

- **2005-2016**
  - Ann D. Christy, Regional, 2005
  - M. Susie Whittington, National, 2008
  - Joseph F. Donnermeyer, Regional, 2010
  - Michael J. Boehm, National, 2010
  - Emily B. Buck, Regional, 2016
  - Ann D. Christy, National 2016
  - Brian H. Lower, Regional, 2016

**Pictured above in order of L to R:** Linda Martin, Brian Lower, Emily Buck and Ann Christy
The Ohio Soybean Council was founded in 1991 to manage the Soybean Research and Promotion Program, commonly referred to as the soybean checkoff. Soybean farmers pay one half of one percent of the bushel price to the soybean checkoff when they sell soybeans. Half is sent to the United Soybean Board and half is invested right here in Ohio in soybean production research, marketing and promotion, new product development and education to maximize profit opportunities for soybean farmers.

Ohio soybean farmers consistently rank state and federal regulation as their top concern. The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) provides leadership for Ohio’s soybean farmers in promoting effective policies and legislation. OSA represents its members at both the state and federal levels, and works cooperatively with its national affiliate, the American Soybean Association. Soybean checkoff dollars cannot be used for lobbying and legislative activities. That’s why your OSA membership is vital to making the soybean industry in Ohio successful and profitable for years to come.

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CURRENT STUDENTS
For 20 years, four months, and 16 days O’Quin was a Chief (E-7) Machinist Repairer (Machinery) carrying on a family tradition and repairs ship propulsion machinery, auxiliary equipment, and outside machinery carrying on a family tradition of naval service. While in the navy, O’Quin deployed to the Mediterranean Sea twice and the Persian Gulf once. O’Quin, a fine arts major, joined to get the GI Bill to help pay for art school, his true passion in life.

“Having a degree would be better for me personally than not having a degree, even at this stage in my life. It is a goal that I have always wanted to achieve,” said O’Quin. One of the hardest things to become accustomed to is “usually being the oldest person in class. I feel like I could do better. I should be in my fifties. Learning the same things at the same time as 19-year-olds makes me feel I do not have enough life left to get where I want to be.”

“I was in a position of authority the day I woke up on the navy, and stepping into a college classroom felt like the first day of my freshman year in high school. Not being in charge anymore is probably the hardest transition. Realizing that I was starting over,” said O’Quin.

When asked what advice is most important for incoming freshman veterans, O’Quin gave the following quotation with a serious look on his face. “Never forget where you came from, but don’t let it stop you from where you want to go. One thing I had to do was stop thinking about the past 20 years and concentrate about where you want to be in four. Simply put, in realizing that the ending of one era of my life was not the end, it was the beginning of something new.”

OSU ALUMNI
On the flip side of the current students are all the veterans who have graduated and joined the workforce. These veterans bring a lot to the table for potential employers. Most of these veterans have exceptional leadership skills and their attention to detail is second to none. Once you add in these veterans having degrees from Ohio State, hiring them becomes a no-brainer for employers. One of these former student veterans is Gary Cox Jr.

As a 2014 graduate of Ohio State University Marion campus, Cox has already put his degree in psychology to good use. Shortly after graduation Cox accepted a job offer from the Salvation Army in Delaware, Ohio. The job was working in their Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) division as a case manager.

Cox worked with local landlords to help homeless veterans receive stable housing. This included many important aspects of housing such as providing the veterans their first month’s rent and covering their security deposit. This is often a major barrier to homeless veterans because they simply do not have the means to cover these costs.

Cox served in the United States Marine Corps for 8.5 years and reached the rank of sergeant (E-5). During his time in service, Cox was stationed at Camp Fuji and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, and Marine Corp Air Station Beaufort, South Carolina, and had completed deployments to Afghanistan and Korea. Cox finished his military career on recruiting detail. All the experiences Cox has gone through while in the military help him to better connect with the fellow veterans who he serves daily.

While attending Ohio State Marion, Cox was on the 2011 homecoming court, served as undergraduate student government vice-president twice. He was one of a few key members who worked with the university and student veterans to create a student veteran room from conception to completion. There had never been a room specifically dedicated for veterans to hang out and interact with other veteran students on the Marion campus before then.

After gaining valuable experience with the Salvation Army, Cox decided he wanted to use his education and experience to do even more. Cox accepted a position of case manager just over one year ago with ViaQuest in Dublin, Ohio. ViaQuest provides psychological and behavioral services to their clients.

Cox said he “helps civilians and veterans that have a mental or physical disability within the community to be able to deal with the everyday stressors within our society.”

When asked why he chose to follow the career path he has started, Cox explained, "The main reason I went to college was because of my father. He was a disabled veterans outreach program specialist that helped veterans who had separated from military service find employment. I wanted to follow his footsteps." Unfortunately for Cox, his father passed away unexpectedly on August 28, 2013, before he got to see all the great work his son is accomplishing for veterans.

Cox said the thing he misses the most about being an Ohio State student veteran was “the camaraderie. Did it not matter what you were doing or where you were on campus, veterans would always find each other and talk.”

A major university such as Ohio State is forever evolving to keep up with the latest content and delivery methods. This is also the case of the number of student veterans who have chosen to use their educational benefits. In the past, many veterans chose not to use their benefits. The number who do choose to use their educational benefits, appear to be growing every semester. The modern veterans are trying harder than any time in recent history to better themselves.

Cox Jr showing pride in service at the veterans lounge he helped establish on Marion campus.

O’Quin in civilian mode as an Ohio State student. Photo courtesy of James Travis O’Quin.

TYPES OF VETERANS BENEFITS

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND EMPLOYMENT (VRAE) CHAPTER 31

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• Job training, job-seeking skills and resume development
• Assistance funding and keeping a job
• On the Job Training (OJT), apprenticeships and non-paid work experiences
• Post-secondary training at a college, vocational, technical or business school
• Supportive rehabilitation services, such as case management, counseling and medical referrals
• Independent living services for veterans unable to work

POST-9/11 GI BILL, CHAPTER 33

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- AgLympics
- Pumpkin Carving
- Donuts with the Dean
- Ice Skating
- Star Student Supporter
- Student of the Fortnight

Bi-Weekly Thursday Meetings at 5:30pm
I

нтерested in sustainability? What about plants? Soon there will be even more chances for you to find your fit in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmenal Sciences. In Fall 2017 new career opportunities within sustainable plant systems are being brought to life in the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science (HCS) at The Ohio State University.

“I think these changes will encourage students to study HCS who don’t previously have a personal or family background in agriculture, but are interested in the production and research aspects of agricultural operations,” said Joey Hamrock, graduate student in Crop Science.

“The growth will expand potential job options for students in the sustainable plant systems major. It could open up a lot of career opportunities for students, as both of these specializations are interdisciplinary in nature and important for organizations involved in agricultural research, crop production, food security, ornamental gardening and landscaping, etcetera, but could also lead to entrepreneurial opportunities,” said Hamrock.

A BROADER VARIETY

The two new specializations will allow students to have a wider variety of career choices in many plant-related jobs. “These changes will also give our department the opportunity to become increasingly more competitive with other universities,” said Keeley Overmyer, a sophomore studying sustainable plant systems.

“It will give our students the opportunity to become a more diverse, career-ready candidate after graduation.”

Many individuals find their career while taking these courses within their specialization. This gives students the opportunity to experience firsthand what potential careers involve. “The department has many opportunities with amazing staff that will help students expand and enhance their ability to prepare them for a successful career,” said Ben Edders, a senior studying sustainable plant systems.

AN ECOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

“Students who come from different backgrounds—farming communities, urban, suburban settings and students we’ve missed, long to have an ecological perspective and they prefer to apply it in some concrete way instead of abstractly,” said Emilie Regnier, Ph.D., associate professor in horticulture and crop science.

“They are drawn to agriculture production systems. Students are valuable because they bring unique perspectives to ag cropping systems. It’s also valuable to have someone from outside the systems to see with fresh eyes.”

Even though this integration of new curriculum won’t directly affect current students, it will impact their experience within the department. “Adding two new specializations will build the diversity that the horticulture and crop science department currently has. The sustainable plant systems major has a variety of specializations, and adding agroecology and plant biosciences will make the sustainable plant systems appealing to a broader range of students,” said Overmyer.

For Overmyer, “the sustainable plant systems major is especially attractive because many of the courses overlap between specializations. This gives students more flexibility to change majors if they come to campus and find that a different specialization interests them more. Adding these specializations will entice potential students to consider majoring in sustainable plant systems.”

THE SPECIALIZATIONS

The plant biosciences specialization is a new opportunity for students interested in applied plant science who don’t desire being constrained to a specific commodity group. As proposed in the curriculum submitted by the department to the College Academic Affairs Committee, “this specialization offers students the opportunity to explore plant origins, diversity, growth and development at multiple scales.”

The agroecology specialization is designed to develop a system-type way of thinking, focusing on the ecological aspect of plant systems. Also proposed in the curriculum submitted, it involves applying ecology within the structure and management of agroecosystems. Such systems could involve horticulture and agronomic crops that, “integrate production of multiple species to create more diverse, ecologically sound and sustainable land-use systems.”

POTENTIAL IMPACT

“These are very important additions because agroecology and plant biosciences are critical areas in plant science that we are in need of more educated professionals,” said Overmyer.

“Concentrating on these specializations will give the department an opportunity to pave the way in these fields of study. Students will be equipped with the knowledge necessary to succeed in their chosen career path.”

“We hope to provide an agroecology-centric specialization for those people who want to get into the ecology of agriculture at the biology level. Our goal is to provide students with a really good understanding of biology and ecology of a system,” said Regnier.

Regnier also explained that it will be a wonderful change to have a home for students interested in these specializations because, until now, they haven’t had a home within the department. “It’ll create a sense of a critical mass, students can get to know each other, which will create a sense of excitement within our department. Enthusiasm from students, anticipating that it will facilitate students learning from each other—it will also be rewarding for those who teach ecology as applied to agriculture, knowing that we have students interested,” said Regnier.

“I want people to see that if you’re interested in plants, whatever aspect—that this is the department to come to,” said Jim Metzger, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Horticulture and Crop Science. •
Since 1940, the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University has offered numerous Ohio State faculty-led study abroad opportunities for students to engage. However, education abroad became recognized as part of academia, developing its own department within the college in 2006. Education outside the classroom has become very important, whether it be to earn academic credit or for personal or professional growth, there is an experience that will fit every student’s interest to educate, give back, serve or learn about agriculture or food sustainability in other countries.

Kelly Newlon, an Ohio State alumnus who is now the director of Education Abroad for the college, has traveled to six different continents through international programs. Newlon has held various titles throughout the college but has found her calling in this position, and she is determined to make it to that final continent someday.

“Studying abroad is so important because there is nothing that we do in this college that is not global in nature,” Newlon said.

“Education abroad is so important because there is nothing that we do in this college that is not global in nature,” Newlon said.

“Studying abroad is a catalyst for students recognizing their passions and understanding the complexity of their interests.”

With study abroad under the academic umbrella, students may use student loans and FAFSA as a way to fund their trips.

“Studying abroad is a catalyst for students recognizing their passions and understanding the complexity of their interests.”

“Tracy Kittel, the Agricultural Communications, Education and Community Leadership (ACEL) department chair said, “I am exceptionally supportive of students taking advantage of study abroad opportunities in college. As I have seen with students who have taken advantage, study abroad can change your view of the world, and more broadly, your life.”

Newlon works diligently to lock in new sponsorships and scholarships for students to apply for to ensure they have the opportunity to get the international experience they wish to have. Statistics from the college show that a little over half of the students who apply for scholarships end up as recipients, making their experience more appreciative and affordable.

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Women Taking Lead of College and ATI Administration

Cathann Arceneaux Kress, Ph.D.

The Ohio State University has recommended Cathann Arceneaux Kress, as vice president for agricultural administration and dean of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CF AES). She currently is vice president for extension and outreach and director of cooperative extension at Iowa State University.

“It’s an honor to join the incredible community of faculty, staff and volunteers dedicated to all of CF AES’s missions in education, research, outreach and service. I’m excited by the opportunities and multiple ways we can enhance the capacities and impacts of CF AES,” Kress said.

Kress earned a B.S. in social work at Iowa State and an M.A. in counselor education/college student development and a Ph.D. in education, both from the University of Iowa.

Kristina M. Boone, Ph.D.

Kristina M. Boone, Communications and Agricultural Education department head in the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University, will start her new role as the Director of ATI on April 1, 2017.

Boone received her M.S. and Ph.D. from Ohio State in agricultural communication and extension education, respectively, and her undergraduate degree from Texas Tech. She served as a watershed extension agent with Ohio State University Extension and co-led a water education program during her graduate program.

“I’m excited about returning to Ohio State University in this new and different capacity. The campus is well positioned because of the strategic planning initiatives,” she said.

Story and photos courtesy of CF AES Communications.
We are committed to the professional development and well-being of the future of U.S. Agriculture. Come be a part of the fastest growing Student Organization in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. From livestock to crops and tractors to shops, Ohio State’s Agricultural Systems Management Club has room at the table for everyone!

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The Buckeye Dairy Club is an organization focused on the dairy industry, where members work hard and learn about the industry as well as advocating its importance. The students gather to create and stimulate a close unity and professional understanding between one another who share an interest in the dairy industry. The club works to promote cooperation and friendship between members, faculty, and men and women in their respective fields in the dairy industry.
While the average student spends a large amount of their college career studying inside the Thompson Library, not many students are aware of the meticulous development the building itself has sustained. The library is unmistakably a work of art, and “Building Ohio State,” an exhibit on display until May 14, 2017, will teach students and spectators alike about the history of The Ohio State University and its connections with Ohio's forests.

The floor-to-ceiling glass entrance of the exhibit allows foot traffic on the library’s first floor to catch a glimpse into the history of local woodlands. Upon entering the exhibit, spectators are welcomed by a spectacular architectural vision for the library itself has sustained. The library is unmistakably a work of art, and “Building Ohio State,” an exhibit on display until May 14, 2017, will teach students and spectators alike about the history of The Ohio State University and its connections with Ohio's forests.

The exhibit’s grand opening attracted dozens of viewers, Conway encouraged visitors to the exhibit to continue researching and learning about the exhibit, and for those in the industry to continue to find ways to be efficient in manufacturing white oak from Ohio's forests. In his closing statement, Conway reminisced on his life growing up being influenced by his grandfather in the timber industry.

“Wood is warm, wood is strength, wood is character. We are drawn to it. Wood is renewable and wood is sustainable,” Conway said, “No one has ever said ‘Wow! That was real plastic’.”

William A. Kellerman (1850-1908) was Professor and Head of the Department of Botany at The Ohio State University from 1891 to 1908. Kellerman and his wife, Stella, prepared this mount for an exhibition in 1893.
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No one is successful by themselves. We all need others around us who believe in the work we do and our mission.
COBA/Select Sires has been very fortunate to work with the outstanding students, staff and faculty at The Ohio State University and OSU-ATI for many years. The mutual respect and shared learning benefit all involved.
Thank you for your continued leadership, involvement and support.
COBA is excited about the future and working with you to get there!
I was nervous about coming to a university as large as Ohio State," said Matthew Griffin, a member of the Students Understanding Sustainability and Taking Action to Improve Nature and Society (SUSTAINS) learning community. "I wanted to find a community of students who shared my passion for the environment, and I was looking for a way to make Ohio State feel smaller, and SUSTAINS gave that to me."

At The Ohio State University, a learning community is a group of students that all live on the same floor of a residence hall and who are connected by a shared academic interest. Living in one common area makes it easier to meet other students who share an invested passion for sustainability. "I joined SUSTAINS as not only a pre-professional trips SUSTAINS has taken the past two years to D.C. and Chicago," Voigt said. "Being able to connect with industry professionals in both environmental policy and sustainable business gave me an entirely new understanding of the field while also being able to explore the cities with my friends, either walking around Lakeshore Drive or the memorials and fountains of the D.C. mall, has given me memories to last a lifetime." Voigt joined SUSTAINS because it offered a chance to help the environment by participating in many of the unique opportunities that are not offered in any other learning community on campus.

"My favorite memories have been the pre-professional trips SUSTAINS has taken to D.C. and Chicago," Voigt said. "Being able to connect with industry professionals in both environmental policy and sustainable business gave me an entirely new understanding of the field while also being able to explore the cities with my friends, either walking around Lakeshore Drive or the memorials and fountains of the D.C. mall, has given me memories to last a lifetime.”

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Matthew Griffin cherishes the memories he made during the trips to D.C. last year. “On our trip, we met with top executives and policy makers to hear how sustainability is being embraced at the highest levels of our society. I also made many wonderful memories as I truly got to know my fellow SUSTAINS friends,” said Griffin.

GETTING INVOLVED WITH SAVING THE WORLD

The world will not able to sustain the lives of over 7 billion people if we do not make a change in the way that we use natural resources. Students involved with SUSTAINS are coming up with unique ways in which they can help improve the sustainability of the world's resources.

"The most rewarding part of being with SUSTAINS is watching students create their own ideas about sustainability and apply them to the real world. There is nothing that compares to that as an instructor,” Hnytka said. The students involved in the SUSTAINS learning community are coming up with unique ways to help improve life on campus for more than 30,000 students. So what are you doing to help sustain the world’s natural resources? •

SUSTAINING YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

STORY BY: RACHEL ROMONOSKY • COLUMBUS, OH

Gina Hnytka is the SUSTAINS Learning Community program co-leader and academic partner for the program. Her role on campus includes co-leading the planning of campus events, recruiting new students for the program and program management. She has been working full time at Ohio State for eight years and has a background in student housing, which is how the idea for SUSTAINS first came about. She feels passionately about the environment and sustainability, so she wanted to create a smaller learning group where students could get involved in their community.

SUSTAINS ACTIVITIES

The SUSTAINS learning community offers a wide variety of activities in which students can participate, ranging from social to professional development. Annual trips focus on different aspects of sustainability, such as the policies and the economic components that go along with sustaining life in different communities across the country.
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The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences cultivates positive change and a fresh vision for Ohio State ATI

A group of identified leaders and faculty members spent several long days together surrounded by big charts, sticky notes and the ambition to cultivate positive change and a fresh vision at The Ohio State University's Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI). Though they may not have realized at the time, their initial work planted a seed that will continue to blossom into transformational growth in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) for years to come.

“The re-envisioning process is all about identifying and establishing a pathway to create our overall philosophy for our college,” said Linda Martin, Ph.D., associate dean and director of academic affairs at CFAES. “The results will benefit staff and faculty on both the Wooster and Columbus campuses, stakeholders and the entire university. It will also impact our students, who are the core of everything we do.”

Through the re-envisioning process, CFAES put a priority on looking at ATI and identifying its value and what it contributes to the university as a whole. The intent of this re-envisioning process is not to ‘fix’ ATI,” said Jeanne Osborne, assistant director at ATI. “The intent is to identify all the great things ATI is doing and look at how they can be made even greater to really make the campus an integral part of the college.”

This process began in 2014 with a select group who started to identify how ATI contributes to CFAES, the university and to the state of Ohio. Together they spent several meetings brainstorming the overarching strengths and weaknesses ATI possessed. “In 2015, the committee identified a list of seven different macro goals that would be set in place to guide the re-envisioning process,” Osborne said.

In addition to the seven goals, they identified three specific goals, including improving facilities and technology, moving forward for Ohio State ATI, and improving facilities and technology, moving forward for Ohio State ATI. A series of events paired with leadership within CFAES sparked the idea of implementing future change.

Over the course of two years, ATI has transformed from quarters to quarters to semesters in 2012, Osborne said. “The transition prompted us to take a closer look at ATI’s curriculum. We realized the need to identify pathways, or offer a successful path of transition, for each program as our students continued into four-year programs at the Columbus campus.”

Following the university’s switch to semesters, faculty advisors began to receive more and more feedback from students regarding course credits that wouldn’t transfer with them to Columbus. This problem, paired with a continuous increase in the enrollment of students, prompted ATI to start thinking about necessary changes to ensure a seamless transition for students completing their four-year degrees.

“At first, we were coming from two-year programs, and the students wanted to continue their education at four-year universities,” Osborne said. “As we started thinking about the future, we realized that we needed to create a seamless pathway for students who wanted to continue their education at four-year universities.”

A large portion of the re-envisioning process focused on adjusting how closely ATI’s academic programming was aligned with the rest of the college to ensure a seamless transition for students completing their four-year degrees.

“We also had to think about how we could make it easier for students to complete their degree at ATI and the college,” Osborne said. “We want to make sure that students graduating from ATI are able to continue their education at four-year universities.”

The progress made by the re-envisioning teams has paved the way for new academic programs within the college. One of the newest programs is bioenergy and biological waste management, which was created to replace a deactivated program.

“The college’s renewable energy program was recently deactivated as a result of work done through re-envisioning,” Osborne said. “When students finished the two-year degree at ATI there was no continued opportunity to pursue a four-year degree in Columbus. Students were disadvantaged.”

After identifying a need, representatives from the industry worked with faculty to develop curriculum to train and certify students in new bioenergy and biological waste management programs, already an improvement from the renewable energy program according to Osborne.

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The new program is in direct alignment with the college’s mission, the university’s mission and the needs of Ohioans.

“This is what ATI can do,” Osborne said. “We can look at what the needs are and develop programs that don’t necessarily require a four-year degree program to be met.”

In addition to positive changes related to academic programming, other milestones have been made at the Wooster campus.

“We created momentum and responding to this push to improve what we’re doing,” said Thomas Janini, Ph.D., interim director of ATI. “We’re seeing an improved integration of the operations on the Wooster campus and a greater collaboration among faculty and staff across the college.”

The re-envisioning process has allowed many to see the entirety of the Wooster campus as a part of the college, but the process is not done. The continued goal is to make ATI a more integral part to the CFAES mission.

We are one college and one university. It just made sense that we would be accredited in the same way,” Osborne said. “As a result of the re-envisioning process we were able to make it happen. ATI is now accredited in the same way as the rest of the university.”

NEW PROGRAMS PROVIDE CAREER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

The progress made by the re-envisioning teams has paved the way for new academic programs within the college. One of the newest programs, bioenergy and biological waste management, was created to replace a deactivated program.

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“The re-envisioning process is all about identifying and establishing a pathway to create our overall philosophy for our college,” said Linda Martin, Ph.D., associate dean and director of academic affairs at CFAES. “The results will benefit staff and faculty on both the Wooster and Columbus campuses, stakeholders and the entire university. It will also impact our students, who are the core of everything we do.”

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences cultivates positive change and a fresh vision for Ohio State ATI

STORY BY: MARY SIEKMAN • DELAWARE, OH

The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute located in Wooster, Ohio, is an associate degree-granting program within CFAES. Photo by: Taylor Lutz

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New programs provide career opportunity for students.

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I SPY: A College With Hidden Major Gems

Story by: Katie Shoup • Orrville, Ohio

It’s a bustling school day on a college campus where students are going to class or sitting in a quiet library to study and work on homework. From new students to upperclassmen, they are working hard to get an education.

In Columbus, The Ohio State University is noted for the many majors offered to students, especially those within agriculture. Some of these majors are hidden gems, lower-enrollment programs that offer unique experiences.

Among these majors in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) are agricultural systems management, plant pathology and entomology. These majors are a way to experience and learn something new.

One hidden gem is agricultural systems management (ASM), with about 80 students in the program. Students studying ASM learn how to apply skills in math, physics and engineering to food production and processing systems.

Another hidden gem is plant pathology. Plant pathology is the study of plant disease and includes analysis of DNA. In the past, Ohio State’s plant pathology department studied the DNA of wheat where the plant pathologists were able to identify a blight, or poisonous pathogen.

They found that the wheat was susceptible to a blight that caused halo-infections. This wheat blight may have even played a part where the plant pathologists were able to identify a blight, or poisonous pathogen. They found that the wheat was susceptible to a blight that caused halo-infections. This wheat blight may have even played a part in the Salem witch trials.

Due to the small size of the plant pathology program, the entomology department has trained up alongside them, so plant health and entomology students are put in the same program bringing the total of students to around 30. “They get to experience both sides,” Wendy Klooster, Ph.D., said.

Klooster, the academic program coordinator for the entomology program at Ohio State, has a passion to help increase interest for the program. Students use a “shotgun” approach to market the major by putting advertisements in CAB buses, in the campus newspaper The Lantern or by word of mouth.

Going out into the community and informing groups, like Girl Scout troops, is one way Klooster chooses to market the program, especially to young people. “It is one way to notify people that insects are not bad and won’t hurt them,” she said.

Students wanting to get more involved in entomology can join a club called Chrysalis. “It is student-run, and anyone can join who has an interest in entomology,” Klooster said.

A STUDENT’S MAJOR OPINION

Zachary Griebenow, an entomology major and president of the Chrysalis Club, has had an interest in insects for as long as he can remember. He decided to become an entomologist after taking a college-level insect identification course at Ohio State’s Stone Laboratory at Put-In-Bay when he was 15.

After taking the course at Stone Lab, Griebenow decided on systematic entomology, or the study of evolutionary relationships among given insects, as a career. He enjoyed the course a great deal. “Having earned an A with ease, I was convinced that it would be an excellent career choice, and I have not looked back since,” said Griebenow.

MAJOR OPPORTUNITIES

Even though graduating high school students may have a narrow vision about available majors in college, talking with multiple CFAES advisors provides a great opportunity to learn what is out there. This could open doors for incoming students to take introductory courses before committing to the major.

Opportunities also exist for current students, so it is good to never stop exploring, asking questions and taking time to see what else is out there. You may be overlooking a hidden gem.
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Farmland Forever

The Ohio Department of Agriculture is protecting farmland for the future, one acre at a time.

**THE HISTORY**

Gov. George Voinovich and Lt. Gov. Nancy Hollister passed legislation for this program in 1996 when they announced that the governor would form a farmland preservation task force. Howard Wise, the assistant director of the ODA and alumnus of The Ohio State University, was instrumental in getting this program up and running. Wise shared that he and a few others others traveled to Michigan, Pennsylvania and Maryland to see how those programs worked in order to shape Ohio’s program. Ohio began its program in 1999 with the first year just including donated land. The first purchase program easement was accepted while Wise was the executive director of the Farmland Preservation office in 2002. The purchase program itself has protected nearly 70,000 acres of farmland in Ohio with pending easements included.

**THE PROCESS**

For land to be eligible during the annual application period for the voluntary purchase program, it must meet a few requirements. Those requirements include the person wanting to apply owning the land, the land consisting of at least 40 acres and the land being enrolled in the agricultural district program within its county, as well as being taxed at its current agricultural use value (CAUV). CAUV is a tax rate that landowners receive because their land is in agricultural production, Bennett said. Once the local sponsor has applied on behalf of the landowner, the agricultural easement purchase process, which can take up to two years, can begin. The process begins with looking through the landowner’s title work and the history of the property to make sure there are no other interests on the property so the land can enter into a deed of agricultural easement. There are a variety of documents that must be completed for an easement because it is a government program. When all of the paperwork is done with the landowner and government, the landowner is then able to sign the easement. “The deed essentially takes the development rights off the table and therefore keeps the land in agriculture perpetually,” Bennett said.

Many landowners apply to be in the program again once their original land gets accepted so they will have multiple easements for their property to be preserved. Joe Young even used some of the money he received for his easement to purchase more land nearby that he plans to preserve with the program as well. “The majority of people I speak with are emotionally committed to the farmland, it’s their business, it’s their livelihood, but it’s also their life so they are concerned and want that to be preserved for the future,” Bowen said.

There is no doubt that farmland is important to the future of our society. “Some people have a genuine belief that we need to preserve farmland for a future food supply, agriculture is a land-based industry,” Wise said. The other reason people find this program important was that “they love the land, they love the farm, they understand it produces food but they don’t want to see it taken out of farmland because of a love for the agricultural land and the agricultural industry.” Wise said. Young advised landowners to, “find out everything about it you can, and the other thing is make absolute sure the family is on board with it, too. Everyone has to know what’s going on and everyone has to agree.”

The program is currently working with the highest number of easements it ever has, which will help to preserve more acres for the future. Preserving farmland through the program is important for future generations of the state of Ohio, the country and our world. Those involved are passionate about that future. “We love it out here; my roots go deep,” Young said. •

**LEGISLATION**

The Ohio Department of Agriculture is protecting farmland for the future, one acre at a time. “It’s their business, it’s their livelihood, but it’s also their life so they are concerned and want that to be preserved for the future.”

**FAST FACTS:**

- Legislation for this program passed in 1996
- Program reaches 58 counties of 88 in Ohio
- Nearly 70,000 acres preserved in Ohio

For more information about this program, visit: [WWW.AGRI.OHIO.GOV](http://WWW.AGRI.OHIO.GOV)
Metro Parks strive to provide opportunities that encourage people to discover and experience nature throughout Central Ohio.

1. **THREE CREEKS METRO PARK**
   Located near Groveport, this 1,000-acre metro park is home to over 40 miles of trails to explore. The park is named after the confluence where Alum, Big Walnut and Blacklick creeks join together. Visitors are encouraged to take advantage of the beautiful park available to them and are welcome to bike, canoe, kayak, fish and explore the natural play areas. The area is home to many owls, great blue herons and nearly 100 other species of birds. It is common for visitors to catch a glimpse of native wildlife including beaver, mink, coyote and deer while exploring the trails.

2. **SLATE RUN METRO PARK**
   Located near Canal Winchester, Slate Run features a variety of habitats to explore throughout its 1,705-acre park. The Slate Run Living Historical Farm is located inside the park and offers a unique experience by exhibiting an opportunity to see firsthand what it was like to live on an Ohio farm in the 1880s. The park may be best known for its historical farm, but the scenery is equally breathtaking. Among its marshes and forests, visitors experience an abundance of tree species including beech, sugar maple and hickory. Combine the Bobolink, Kokomo and Sugar Maples trails for a six-mile hike throughout the metro park.

3. **SCIOTO GROVE METRO PARK**
   This 520-acre park is located along the Scioto River near Grove City. Scioto Grove is home to mature forests and scenic areas overlooking the river. The park features more than seven miles of trails, community picnic areas and shelters, making it a lovely place for people of all ages and abilities to experience nature and enjoy quality time outdoors. Scioto Grove became a favorite destination for many backpackers after outdoor retailer REI constructed an overnight camping and hiking trail along the river for those craving more backpacking experience.

4. **WALNUT WOODS METRO PARK**
   Located near Groveport, Walnut Woods features 1,098 acres of beautiful woodlands, fields and restored wetlands areas. The park’s winding trails through tall pines and sweetgum trees make it difficult to believe downtown Columbus is located only twenty minutes away. The park is bordered by Walnut Creek to the north and offers plenty of opportunities for canoeing, kayaking and fishing. Visitors are encouraged to bring their animal companions with them on the trails or let them play off-leash in the park’s designated dog park that includes a doggy swimming pool.

5. **HIGHLANKS METRO PARK**
   Located just north of Franklin County, Highbanks Metro Park sits on almost 1,200 acres and overlooks the Olentangy State Scenic River. The park contains a variety of scenery and views including wooded trails and beautiful ravines cut into sandstone by tributary streams. Highbanks offers outdoor activities including hiking, biking, canoeing and kayaking for all ages. Combine the Coyote Run and Overlook trails for a challenging, five-mile hike through forest and river views. Additionally, the park provides incredible vistas of fall foliage and color for its visitors to enjoy every year.

6. **INNISWOOD METRO GARDENS**
   Nestled within a scenic nature preserve north of Columbus, Inniswood Metro Gardens provides a welcoming atmosphere for visitors of all ages. The 121-acre, landscaped park is filled with more than 2,000 species of plants, specialty collections and themed gardens. In addition to the lovely foliage, natural streams and woodlands filled with wildflowers and other critters make themselves at home in the park. Walkers, hikers and bikers are welcome to explore trails winding through the woods on the outside of the gardens.
Engage. Discover. Learn. Create. You can #BeTheOne to make a difference in the world. You’re sure to find something that aligns with your passion at Ohio State’s College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. With Columbus and Wooster locations, select from 22 majors, 31 minors, a two-year option at Ohio State ATI or a four-year option at the Columbus campus. Take your first step to #BeTheOne. Visit or check us out online.

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