Outstanding Online Resources
MAB is Going Global
Can Economists Help Fight AIDS?
Welcome to the Fall 2010 issue of the “Exchange.” I hope you enjoy reading highlights of our recent accomplishments and activities.

It was very exciting to see how well our graduate students performed at this year’s annual Agricultural and Applied Economics Association meetings in Denver. Six of our graduate students formed two teams for the Graduate Student Case Study Competition. The teams developed and evaluated expansion plans for a Pacific Northwest miller. The K-State teams won first and second place honors out of the eleven teams competing. So impressed was the owner of the milling firm that he followed up with both teams after the competition to get additional input on his firm’s business plans.

In addition to the Case Study teams, Lee Schulz, a Ph.D. student, won second place in the Extension Section’s Graduate Student Paper competition. Lee’s presentation was based on work he is doing with Ted Schroeder looking at the costs and benefits of traceability in livestock production.

In addition to these award-winning efforts, all of our graduate students were highly visible at the Denver meetings. The students presented papers and posters, moderated sessions and made a great impression on the 2,000 attendees.

One element in President Schulz’s goal for Kansas State University to be a top public research university is guiding students in applied research. The awards our students won in Denver (and elsewhere over the year) indicate how well-prepared our students are for addressing issues in agriculture, natural resources, and agribusiness. The agribusiness professionals enrolled in the department’s Master of Agribusiness program similarly apply the skills they learn in their courses to help solve problems and exploit opportunities their businesses are currently facing.

We are in competition with universities around the world for attracting the best and the brightest graduate students to Kansas State. We are successful, and our program is highly rated. Our success hinges upon continuing to offer the financial support needed to bring students to Manhattan. We currently provide assistance to 18 Ph.D. and 26 M.S. on-campus students. Our faculty are very successful in attracting external funds to support our graduate students. Former faculty and friends of the department have been extremely generous in designating and funding several graduate student scholarship funds. We are exploring options to provide support for distance education students in the MAB program.

Thanks for the support that many of you already provide for our faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students.

~ David Lambert, Department Head

Apply Now for Scholarships!

Will you be a K-State sophomore, junior or senior majoring in agriculture in 2010-11? Are you or your parents members of a cooperative? Ex. ag, phone, financial, electric, etc.

Complete the K-State scholarship application by Feb. 1. Don’t forget to answer the questions concerning cooperative or credit union membership.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: http://accc.ksu.edu/internscholar/accc_scholarships.htm

EXCHANGE

Fall 2010

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The Exchange is a newsletter for Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics alumni published once a year. Please share your story ideas, comments and suggestions.

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ON THE COVER
A woman in a Zambian market shows her variety of beans. On page 8, read about how a research team led by Vincent Amanor-Boadu is studying how and where value is created in the pulse value chains in Zambia.
Ag producers and lenders gathered on-campus Nov. 16-17 for the first on-campus session of MAST, or Management, Analysis and Strategic Thinking.

The course helps enhance management, decision-making and strategic planning skills. The program is hosted by K-State’s Department of Agricultural Economics, with support from faculty at the University of Nebraska and Oklahoma State University.

MAST includes two on-campus sessions and online learning modules addressing topics such as land, machinery, financial analysis, human resources, tax and policy, risk management and marketing. The program concludes with a second on-campus session Feb. 22-23, 2011.

The current class includes 27 agricultural producers, family farm partners, land owners and ag lenders from across Kansas and Nebraska.

To learn more, visit www.agmanager.info/MAST.
Going Global
Master of Agribusiness Program to Expand in Southeast Asia

by Mary Bowen

For 13 years, the Kansas State University Master of Agribusiness distance-degree program has helped agribusiness professionals gain the knowledge and skills to excel in today’s rapidly changing and increasingly complex, global food and agricultural economy. Now, the program is working to expand across the world.

Working with industry partners including the National Renderers Association, U.S. Soybean Export Council, U.S. Grains Council and U.S. Wheat, the MAB program is exploring the possibility of creating a new section of the program in Southeast Asia.

MAB students earn a master’s degree in two and a half years while doing coursework using the internet, DVD, podcasts and multi-audio chatrooms. Currently, students visit K-State during four one-week campus sessions where they start coursework, meet other students and faculty, receive training on the technology used, interact with industry leaders and give group project presentations.

In the proposed new cohort, the “on-campus” portion of the program will be offered at the Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia, beginning in May 2011. The curriculum will be adapted to southeast Asia’s business environment.

“Interest in the MAB program from those outside the United States continues to grow,” said Allen Featherstone, professor of agricultural economics and director of the Master of Agribusiness program. “Many agribusiness professionals have expressed a desire to obtain a master’s degree to equip them with business and economic skills and an increased understanding of food and agribusiness systems on a global scale.”

However, many international students have difficulty participating in a U.S. program due to travel constraints for on-campus sessions and, to a lesser extent, U.S. visa issues, Featherstone adds. The new cohort will provide international agribusiness students another option for continuing their education.

Employees of multi-national companies also may find this new cohort offers an even greater international education. The MAB program has a globally diverse mix of students in its current classes, but the opportunity to study abroad enhances the international learning experience and creates global industry connections.

“While I knew the ag equipment business from my years of work experience, I realized the need to update, broaden and deepen my analysis and quantitative decision making skills. I chose the MAB program due to its focus on agribusiness topics and direct approach to developing the new skills and knowledge I wanted,” said Dave Rock, an MAB Alumnus and Manager, Dealer Strategy with John Deere Company in Lenexa, Kan.

“Our business is increasingly global. The opportunity to complete the same program with campus sessions at an international location would’ve been an even deeper experience,” Rock said.

“The chance to learn firsthand about another culture and make international industry contacts adds even more value to a first-class program.”

Dave Rock, MAB Alumnus
Manager, Dealer Strategy
John Deere Company, Lenexa, Kan.

Currently in its 13th year, the K-State Master of Agribusiness program is expanding to offer a cohort in southeast Asia.

Malaysian food and agribusiness professionals chat during a K-State Agricultural Economics presentation about the Master of Agribusiness program expansion in southeast Asia.

Lynnette Brummett

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The Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness Club has provided networking and educational opportunities for students this fall.

The club kicked off the year with a hamburger feed. Katie Samples, vice president for the club and senior in agribusiness from Winsor, Colo., said other activities included pumpkin carving, club T-shirt sales, a meeting with a student panel and an industry visit to Haverkamp Farms near Bern, Kan. The club also is planning a Christmas party to celebrate the holidays before students head home for winter break.

After 16 years in Washington, D.C., Senator Sam Brownback is headed for the Kansas governor’s office.

Brownback won the Kansas governor’s race Nov. 2 over Democratic opponent Tom Holland.

The Republican governor-elect is a 1978 K-State graduate in agricultural economics. Originally from Parker, Kan., Brownback served as K-State student body president and Kansas FFA president. He went on to the University of Kansas Law School and was president of his class.

In 1987, the K-State Agricultural Economics Department honored Brownback with the distinguished alumnus award.

Over the years, Brownback has been a radio broadcaster, attorney, teacher, administrator, congressman and senator.

Brownback served as a White House Fellow in the first Bush Administration and was the youngest Secretary of Agriculture in Kansas history. When he was 38, he was elected to the House of Representatives from the 2nd Congressional District covering Eastern Kansas. In 1996, he was elected to the U.S. Senate seat once held by Bob Dole.

In the current Congress, Brownback is the top-ranking Republican on the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, which oversees U.S. Department of Agriculture programs as well as food safety and agencies responsible for protection of public health such as the Food and Drug Administration.

Brownback and his wife Mary have five children; Abby, Andy, Liz, Mark and Jenna. They live in Topeka.

Students in the Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness Club grill hamburgers and hot dogs during their back-to-school event. The fall was busy with networking and educational activities.
Outstanding Online Resources
AgManager.info earns AAEA’s Electronic Media Education Award

By Elaine Edwards

For the past eight years, K-State agricultural economists have worked diligently to combine their information into a comprehensive source of applied research and economic information.

Their work was rewarded with the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Outstanding Electronic Media Education Award for 2010 at that organization’s national meeting in Denver. The AgManager.info site is the work of Rich Llewelyn, K-State agricultural economist and site manager, and a team of K-State agricultural economists including Kevin Dhuyvetter, Art Barnaby, Dan O’Brien, Troy Dumler, Michael Langemeier, Vincent Amanor-Boadu, Ted Schroeder and Alicia Goheen.

“The AgManager.info website is the flagship of electronic extension and education programs for K-State’s Department of Agricultural Economics,” Llewelyn said.

The site features livestock marketing, including weekly “In the Cattle Markets” updates; grain marketing, biweekly “Grain Outlook” reports; crop insurance and government programs; and farm management information, including a large variety of Excel spreadsheets and web-based decision tools, such as crop and livestock budgets, land/lease tools, and data sets.

AgManager.info has recently had some additions and upgrades, noted Llewelyn. “RSS feeds and web-browser dashboards for decision tools are complemented by more than 50 Excel spreadsheet tools that help crop and livestock producers manage risk and make decisions,” he said.

Another risk management tool, the grain basis tool, provides weekly historical grain basis information dating back to 1998 for wheat, corn, grain sorghum and soybeans from about 800 locations in the High Plains. Associated GIS maps of grain basis and the deviation from the three-year average also are available weekly.

Recent site additions of interest to the livestock industry include the “Connecting Livestock Producers with Recent Economic Research,” or CLPER, quarterly newsletter by Glynn Tonsor, extension livestock marketing specialist; “Cattle Finishing Returns,” a monthly newsletter by Michael Langemeier; and departmental theses and dissertations.

Other materials include weekly updates to livestock and hay charts, monthly grain supply and demand charts, and projected and historical livestock budgets.

The site is now more accessible with top menus on the main pages and all decision tools on one page. The updated Kansas Farm Management Association site is better integrated into AgManager. Also, the AAEA “Choices” magazine is now available with recent research and policy analysis.
A premier center of excellence in cooperative education, staff in the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center (ACCC) have had a busy and rewarding year working with cooperatives and their employees.

Two national invitation-only conferences, one state conference and numerous educational meetings with local and regional cooperatives along with cooperative lecture series, director education programs, board retreats, board evaluations and financial planning projects are just some of the ways the ACCC is providing cooperative education to cooperative leaders in Kansas and around the country.

In addition to outreach opportunities, the ACCC cooperative scholarship program has awarded $355,400 since 1985 on behalf of the cooperative community, including $38,000 awarded for 2010-11.

Students who meet the K-State College of Agriculture’s scholarship standards are invited to apply for the cooperative scholarships. A committee of faculty and cooperative leaders awards the scholarships, two of which require an on-campus interview process.

It’s a rigorous but rewarding process. Three of the scholarships are $5,000 and the others range from $1,000 to $3,500.

In addition, the center is continuing a development campaign to help increase resources to continue their cooperative education programming in the future. Two of the campaign’s main goals include providing additional cooperative scholarship funds and creating a distinguished professor position to help keep top cooperative educators at K-State. Individuals and cooperatives have a variety of giving options. Learn more about the campaign on the center’s website, http://accc.ksu.edu/accccampaign.htm.

For more information on scholarships and giving to ACCC, please visit http://accc.ksu.edu.

Preston Smith, senior in agribusiness, Weskan, Kan., (center) received the Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship. Bette (left) and Kent (right) Stamper presented the scholarship to Smith at the annual Alumni-Student Awards Banquet on Sept. 24.

Science Fiction Novel Unites New Students

Freshmen and transfer students in the Department of Agricultural Economics are participating in the first-ever Kansas State Book Network, a reading program to intellectually unite new students, faculty and staff.

The selected novel, “The Hunger Games” by Suzanne Collins, details a futuristic society enthralled by a brutal reality television show. Some instructors have incorporated the book in class, like Andrew Barkley, Coffman Distinguished Teaching Scholar in agricultural economics. Barkley asked students to write an essay on the novel in his Honors Orientation course.
Can Economists Help Fight AIDS?

Study of Zambia’s Pulse Value Chains Could Help Reduce Spread of HIV/AIDS

Today, in a Zambian cemetery, dozens of funerals will take place. Families will mourn the loss of loved ones, while nearby, mounds of dirt mark the fresh graves of those lost just days earlier.

It’s a typical day in this southern African nation of 12 million people, which has the one of the highest HIV/AIDS infection rates in the world. In fact, one in seven Zambian adults is living with HIV and the average life expectancy at birth is just 39 years, according to the 2008 data from the Joint United Nations Program on AIDS.

Three years ago, Vincent Amanor-Boadu, associate professor of agribusiness, economics and management, was visiting Zambia, where his friend drove him to a busy cemetery.

He’ll never forget what he saw.

Research shows that the incidence of poverty among women increases their risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Addressing the economic challenges women face could alleviate the pressures that cause their increased exposure to the disease. This is what Amanor-Boadu and his team of researchers are attempting to do.

“If we can increase their entrepreneurial capacity, then people can make better decisions for themselves,” Amanor-Boadu said.

The Pulse Value Chain Initiative (PVCI) Research team is comprised of researchers from Kansas State University and the University of Zambia. The team seeks to estimate how and where value is created in the pulse value chains in Zambia. Pulses include beans, lentils, black-eye peas and pigeon peas.

The research is supported by a two-year grant from the Pulse Collaborative Research Support Program (Pulse CRSP), a program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The other K-State team members are Tim Dalton, associate professor, and Allen Featherstone, professor, both in the Department of Agricultural Economics. The Zambian team is led by Dr. Gelson Tembo in the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Zambia.

The PVCI hopes the knowledge derived from their research will allow them to improve farmers’ role in the pulse value chain in Zambia and, in so doing, extract a larger share of the total value created in the chain.

In addition to funding research on the pulse value chain, the USAID grant will help three Zambian students join K-State’s Masters of Agribusiness program as well as support three Master of Science students and six senior undergraduate students at the University of Zambia.

“When farmers, especially women, can increase their share of the value they create through careful value-enhancing strategies, we empower them to control their economic and social situations, and that can be the difference between life and death,” Amanor-Boadu noted.
Schulz Earns 2nd Place for Extension Program on Animal ID Policies

Lee Schulz of Rosholt, Wis., doctoral student in agricultural economics, earned second place in the 2010 Extension Competition for Graduate Students at the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association July meeting in Denver, Colo.


“This is especially important as the new animal disease traceability system framework is one led by individual states and tribal nations, where USDA will serve as a partner to ensure animal disease traceability standards are defined, measurable and well documented,” Schulz said.

As one of three finalists, Schulz presented to a panel of judges at the AAEA meeting and during the AAEA Extension track symposium. His mentors are Kevin Dhuyvetter and Glynn Tonsor.

Graduate Student Teams Take 1st, 2nd Places in AAEA Case Study Competition

Two teams of K-State agricultural economics graduate students earned top honors in the 2010 Graduate Student Case Study competition at the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association July meeting in Denver, Colo.

The first place team included Shonda Anderson, Sandra Contreras Gomez and Yue Zheng. The second place team included Graciela Andrango, Elizabeth Canales and Jaeljattin Jean. All are graduate students in agricultural economics.

Students were given two weeks to answer a real-world situation and build a presentation explaining their analysis. They gave presentations to two sets of judges, and presented again as finalists to a new panel including the company owner of the case study subject.

The winning team’s presentation, “Expanding the Shepherd’s Grain Brand: The Crossroads of Economics and Sustainability,” studied the production and marketing challenges of wheat growers supplying a branded food product.

“The founders had the drive to market their wheat beyond the elevator. (They) wanted to include part of the food supply channel on the other side of the mill. In order to do that, they had to figure out a few things along the way,” wrote Anderson, Contreras Gomez and Zheng.

In their presentation, the winning team detailed the company’s challenges and solutions, as well as outlook for the future.

Advisors of Anderson, Contreras Gomez and Zheng were Vincent Amanor-Boadu, assistant professor of agricultural economics, and Jeffrey Gwirtz, associate professor of grain science and industry.

Michael Boland, former professor in K-State agricultural economics, advised Andrango, Jean and Canales.
Congratulations to 2010-11 scholarship recipients

The Dan & Beth Bird Scholarship
• Emily Mokohan, junior in agribusiness and animal sciences and industry, Sterling, Colo.

Bullock (John/Pearle E.) Scholarship
• John Bruna, sophomore in agribusiness, Hanover, Kan.

CHS Foundation University Scholarship ♦
• Kassie Curran, sophomore in food science and industry, Grand, Kan.
• Kyle Hanigian, junior in agricultural economics, Strong City, Kan.
• Bryson Haverkamp, junior in agronomy, Bern, Kan.
• Curtis Haverkamp, senior in agribusiness, Bern, Kan.
• Chad Huffman, junior in agricultural economics, Cunningham, Kan.
• Joseph Mertz, senior in agribusiness and journalism and mass communications, Manhattan, Kan.
• Drew Schoendaler, senior in agribusiness, Grinnell, Kan.
• Kayley Zimmerman, senior in agribusiness, Wellington, Kan.

CoBank Scholarship ♦
• Chad Huffman, senior in agricultural economics, Cunningham, Kan.
• Kyle Kennedy, junior in agricultural economics, Hoxie, Kan.
• Kyle Peine, senior in agribusiness, Garnett, Kan.

Raymond J. & Mary Clare Doll Memorial Scholarship
• Carlie Gaus, junior in agribusiness, Paola, Kan.

The Finchbaugh Agriculture Policy Scholarship
• Christina Voelker, junior in agribusiness, Manhattan, Kan.

George R. Hanson Scholarship in Agriculture
• Melody Nichols, junior in equine science and agricultural economics, Lyons, Kan.
• Katie Samples, sophomore in agribusiness, Winson, Colo.

Hosea S. Harkness Agricultural Economics Scholarship
• Tyler Umscheid, sophomore in agribusiness, St. George, Kan.

Ted Heath Memorial Scholarship
• Allen Lange, sophomore in agribusiness, Conway Springs, Kan.

Thomas G. Hobbs Memorial Scholarship
• Christopher Seidler, sophomore in agribusiness, Kansas City, Mo.

The J. Adair Hodges Memorial Fellowship Scholarship
• Dakota Haltgrieve, senior in agricultural economics, Waterloo, la.
• Jennifer Sperry, senior in agribusiness, Wellington, Kan.

Kansas Ag Bankers Scholarship
• Russell Heier, sophomore in agribusiness, Manhattan, Kan.

Kansas Society of Farm Managers & Rural Appraisers Scholarship
• Allen Lange, sophomore in agribusiness, Conway Springs, Kan.

E. Robert & Donna Kern Agriculture Scholarship
• Curtis Haverkamp, sophomore in agribusiness, Bern, Kan.

Koch Nitrogen Company Agriculture Economics Scholarship
• Brock Burnick, sophomore in agricultural economics, Mulberry, Kan.
• Danielle Cope, senior in agribusiness, Florence, Kan.
• Steven Nemeier, junior in agricultural economics, Springfield, Ill.
• Emily Ralph, sophomore in agribusiness, Lenexa, Kan.
• Mallie Roth, junior in agribusiness, Winfield, Kan.
• Traci Rothsberger, senior in agricultural economics, Barnes, Kan.

Tim Lim Undergraduate Scholarship in Agriculture
• Kerri Bates, senior in agricultural economics and animal sciences and industry, Galesburg, Kan.
• Drew Schoendaler, senior in agribusiness, Grinnell, Kan.

The Linn County Cooperative Scholarship ♦
• Jared Wilson, senior in agribusiness, Amoret, Mo.
• Lindsey Wilson, junior in agribusiness, Amoret, Mo.

The William S. May Scholarship ♦
• Casey Cook, senior in finance and agricultural economics, Johnson, Kan.

Charles Dean & Harriet McNeal Memorial Scholarship
• Kyle Essley, senior in agricultural economics, Bozner Springs, Kan.
• Nathaniel Mick, sophomore in agricultural economics, Alton, Kan.
• Morgan Parker, senior in agricultural economics, Limon, Colo.

Joseph Lieber Memorial Cooperative Scholarship ♦
• Kyle Clawson, junior in animal sciences and industry and agricultural economics, Antelope, Kan.

Otis & Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship ♦
• Kim Kerschen, junior in agronomy, Garden Plain, Kan.

The Duane & Pauline Murphy Scholarship
• Jeff Conway, senior in agribusiness, Holcomb, Kan.
• Kiesha Scott, senior in agribusiness, Scott City, Kan.

The Charles W. & Lois H. Naughiem Agricultural Economics Scholarship
• Rebecca Clancy, senior in management and marketing, Salina, Kan.
• Derek Ediger, sophomore in agricultural economics, Hiram, Kan.
• Heather Gibson, sophomore in agribusiness, Copeland, Kan.
• Brooks Hanson, junior in agribusiness, Pawnee Rock, Kan.
• Garrett Lister, sophomore in agricultural economics, Marysville, Kan.

The Adrian John (A.J.) Polansky II Scholarship
• Sierra Koster, junior in agribusiness, Jewell, Kan.

The Gladwin A. Read Memorial Fund Scholarship
• John Bruna, sophomore in agribusiness, Hanover, Kan.
• Jeff Conway, senior in agribusiness, Holcomb, Kan.
• Kelsey Dertzbaugh, senior in agribusiness, Woodsboro, Md.
• Carlie Gaus, junior in agribusiness, Paola, Kan.
• Kyle Hanigian, junior in agricultural economics, Strong City, Kan.

The W.L. “Bill” Webber Memorial Scholarship
• Morgan Lindsay, sophomore in agribusiness, Brookville, Kan.
• Joseph Mertz, senior in agribusiness and journalism and mass communications, Manhattan, Kan.
• Jill Patry, senior in agribusiness, Colwich, Kan.
• Traci Rothsberger, senior in agricultural economics, Barnes, Kan.
• Katie Samples, senior in agribusiness, Winson, Colo.
• Kiesha Scott, senior in agribusiness, Scott City, Kan.
• Jennifer Sperry, senior in agribusiness, Deerfield, Kan.

The Margaret M. Resseguie Scholarship
• Christopher Seidler, sophomore in agribusiness, Kansas City, Mo.

The Floyd E. Ricker Memorial Scholarship
• Kayley Zimmerman, senior in agribusiness, Wellington, Kan.

Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship ♦
• Preston Smith, senior in agronomy, Weskan, Kan.

The W.L. “Bill” Webber Memorial Scholarship ♦
• Kerri Bates, senior in agricultural economics and animal sciences and industry, Galesburg, Kan.

Stanley G. Wendland Memorial Scholarship
• Tyler Umscheid, sophomore in agribusiness, St. George, Kan.

The Dave Woolfolk Scholarship
• Sierra Koster, junior in agribusiness, Jewell, Kan.

Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship
• Brian Lauer, master’s student in agricultural economics, Westmoreland, Kan.
• Greg Regier, master’s student in agricultural economics, Newton, Kan.
• Kristen Schultz, master’s student in agricultural economics, Pemberville, Ohio
• Lee Schultz, doctoral student in agricultural economics, Roselawn, W. Va.

The Arthur Capper Cooperative Center is pleased to represent the cooperative community in awarding scholarships to outstanding students in the College of Agriculture.
The Department of Agricultural Economics held its annual Alumni-Student Awards Banquet on Sept. 24 to recognize outstanding students and alumni for their accomplishments.

Matt Ressegieu ’81 received the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award. Scholarships were awarded to 51 undergraduate and 9 graduate students for the 2010-11 academic year.

Donors in attendance included Marty Albright with Koch Nitrogen Industry, banquet sponsor; Kent and Bette Stamper, Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship; and Leslie Kaufman, Joseph Leiber Memorial Cooperative Scholarship.

Thanks to all our donors for providing funding for students.

Peer scientists rated a journal article on biofuels by K-State researchers No. 6 in the Top 25 Hottest Articles on biomass and bioenergy on Sciverse Science Direct, an online scientific database.

Vincent Amanor-Boadu, associate professor of agribusiness and four other K-State faculty co-authored, “Bio-butanol vs. bio-ethanol: A technical and economic assessment for corn and switchgrass fermented by yeast or Clostridium acetobutylicum.”

The article was published in the April 2010 issue of “Biomass and Bioenergy.” It summarized research studying fermentation-derived butanol as an alternative to ethanol as a biomass-based liquid transportation fuel.

The article suggests that n-butanol may not be a viable ethanol alternative due to reduced energy yield, increased greenhouse gas emission, longer production time and increased capital costs.

Co-authors include Peter H. Pfromm, professor of chemical engineering; Richard Nelson, associate professor of engineering and head of the Kansas Industrial Extension Service; Praveen Vadlani, assistant professor of grain science and industry; and Ronald Madl, administrator of grain science and industry.

Matthew Ressigieu ’81, was recognized with the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award during the Student-Alumni Awards Banquet on Sept. 24. The award is given to an alumnus who has demonstrated significant professional achievement related to agricultural economics or agribusiness.

Ressegieu is the managing member of MMR Enterprises, LLC, a large family business with holdings in Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming. Over the years, Ressegieu has diversified the business, which includes agricultural operations and land management in excess of 80,000 acres, commercial real estate, alternative energy exploration leases and securities portfolio management.

Ressegieu received his bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics with a minor in accounting from K-State in 1981. He received his law degree from the University of Wyoming in 1990. He also completed his LLM in taxation from Denver University in 1995.

After being admitted as a certified public accountant in Nebraska in 1984, Ressegieu worked as a tax accountant emphasizing partnership and corporate tax planning. As a practicing tax attorney, he provided legal services in the areas of estate, business and retirement planning for high-level professionals and small business owners. He has continued to provide these planning services for clients as corporate counsel in advanced planning for a large financial services firm. Last year he had the opportunity to serve as an adjunct professor of business law at Emporia State University.
Lease Workshops Scheduled for Winter

Price volatility in recent years, particularly in the grain markets, has led to difficulties for landlords and tenants to successfully determine and negotiate appropriate rental arrangements.

A series of day-long workshops helps landlords and tenants manage the risk associated with rental arrangements.

Kevin Dhuyvetter, professor of agricultural economics, and Rich Llewelyn, extension assistant in agricultural economics, will lead the four-part workshops.

The first section helps participants better understand rental arrangements, including cash rent, share rent, and the recently popular flex-rent arrangement, where rental rates can “flex” depending on changes in prices, yields, or both. The second part includes a discussion of leasing ethics. The third section provides computer training in using Excel spreadsheets.

Finally, participants are introduced to examples of alternative leasing scenarios and a decision-making tool, KSU-Lease, is demonstrated. Participants have the opportunity to sharpen their skills via hands-on computer application sessions.

The workshops run 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For complete details, please visit www.agmanager.info or contact Rich Llewelyn at 785-532-1504 or rvl@ksu.edu.