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ON THE COVER THE ALHAMBRA PALACE AND FORTRESS COMPLEX IN GRANADA, SPAIN. PHOTO BY KYLIE BEDEL.

FROM THE DESK OF

Dr. Allen Featherstone

As another exciting year begins, I'm pleased to welcome you to the Fall 2026 edition of Exchange. This issue celebrates the accomplishments of our students, faculty, alumni and friends—the people whose dedication continues to strengthen the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Excellence remains at the heart of everything we do. This year, our faculty and students have once again earned national recognition for their teaching, research and service. Congratulations to Dr. Jason Bergtold, Dr. Ted Schroeder, Dr. Aleksan Shanoyan and Mary Winnie, along with many other faculty, staff and students whose achievements are highlighted throughout this issue. You'll also read about innovative research, international collaborations, and extension and outreach efforts that are making an impact in Kansas and around the world.

One of my favorite traditions each year is recognizing the outstanding people who make our department exceptional. This fall, we'll honor our 2026 Distinguished Alumnus, Scott McGinn, President, Koch Fertilizer, and celebrate our student scholarship recipients at the annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet. These individuals exemplify the talent, leadership and commitment that define our department and its graduates.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the support of our alumni, friends and industry partners. Your generosity provides scholarships, enhances student learning experiences, supports faculty excellence and helps us prepare the next generation of leaders in agriculture, agribusiness and applied economics. Thank you for investing in our students and our future. If you're considering a year-end gift, I invite you to contact me to discuss departmental priorities or visit our Give Back page to learn how you can make a difference.

Looking for a new way to show your K-State Ag Econ pride? Visit our new online store to browse department apparel, including shirts, jackets and hats.

Most importantly, we'd love to hear from you. Whether you've accepted a new position, received an award, celebrated a milestone or simply want to reconnect, please share your news with us. You can reach me at afeather@ksu.edu or our communications coordinator, Mary Sullivan, at mjbowen@ksu.edu.

Thank you for being an important part of the K-State Agricultural Economics family. We hope you enjoy this issue of Exchange, and we look forward to staying connected.

Go Cats!



Dr. Allen Featherstone

Department Head and Professor



SUPPORT

Above and Beyond

Despite over 47 years of exemplary office and clerical service at K-State, Mary Winnie was surprised to receive a letter informing her that she was a 2026 recipient of the University Support Staff Award of Excellence.

"That was a very welcome surprise. I wasn't aware that I had even been nominated until I received a letter from President Linton," Winnie said. "I felt that all my years of service finally paid off."

The prestigious award acknowledges the exemplary contributions and performance of support staff across the university. Awardees exceed the expectations of their role, inspire excellence in others, and demonstrate initiative and creativity in their work.

Of Winnie's 47-year career, 38 have been with the Ag Econ Department. As an office specialist, she has seen the department grow and change over the years, a parallel that applies to her own job responsibilities.

The technology-assisted office work she's done in recent years hasn't always been the standard. In her early career days, it wasn't uncommon to find Winnie shorthand copying letters dictated by Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh. On one memorable occasion, 40 back-to-back letters in a single day.

"Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh had a huge impact on my time in the department," Winnie said. "He was very demanding and left a lasting impression on many lives, including mine. He made me a stronger person."

Now retired, Winnie's reflection on her career of distinguished service is bittersweet.

"As I have reached retirement, it is both exciting and sad," Winnie said. "They [co-workers] have been in my life for 38 years. Several have encouraged me and helped me through some tough times. You don't just walk away without many memories to look back on."

The department thanks Mary Winnie for her career of exemplary service and wishes her the best in retirement!



Fall 2026

The Exchange is for Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics friends and alumni. If you have story ideas, comments, or suggestions, please let us know.

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Creating Change **ACROSS THE POND**

Professor Villoria presented his recent findings at the Royal Society's food and nature program

Across the pond, Professor Nelson Villoria attended the Royal Society's food and nature program, where he spoke about the connections between agricultural yields and habitat conservation.

The program, which took place in London from April 20-22, brought together international scholars and experts leveraging the latest science to address rising human food needs while minimizing costs to biodiversity. Programming explored ways to increase farm yields sustainably, policy and market mechanisms affecting change, and the feasibility and scalability of solutions.

"Engaging in this type of forum allows cross-disciplinary communication that facilitates the understanding that improvements in productivity translate into long-term land conservation and other positive outcomes, such as improved food security," said Professor Villoria.

Professor Villoria presented his research examining the economic mechanisms that determine whether yield increases save natural habitat or drive land expansion. While international agricultural production has tripled since the 1960s on a relatively stable land base due to technological advances, stark regional differences still exist. In highly commercialized agricultural frontiers, such as South

America, technological advancements often trigger local rebound or 'Jevons effects,' where increased productivity results in increased profitability, which in turn incentivizes farmers to expand operations into sensitive ecosystems.

However, because global food demand remains largely stable, localized expansion is counterbalanced by market-mediated displacement elsewhere. These findings by Professor Villoria confirm that technology-driven yield growth remains a strong influence on global land.

"Participating in this Royal Society workshop provided a great opportunity to discuss how agricultural economics research addresses critical global sustainability challenges," said Professor Villoria. "The innovations we develop here at Kansas State University interact with international trade and market forces to determine the environmental footprint of agriculture."

“The innovations we develop here at K-State interact with international trade and market forces to determine the environmental footprint of agriculture.”

Professor Nelson Villoria



IN THE PHOTO DR. NELSON VILLORIA PRESENTS HIS FINDINGS AT THE ROYAL SOCIETY'S FOOD AND NATURE PROGRAM IN LONDON

FOSTERING *Student Success*

Dr. Elizabeth Yeager has been recognized for her dedication to student success with the 2026 Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA) Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in the category for educators with more than 10 years of teaching experience.

Presented annually by the Western Agricultural Economics Association, the award recognizes exceptional undergraduate instructors who demonstrate excellence in teaching, student engagement, innovative instructional methods and meaningful contributions to their department's teaching mission. Recipients are selected based on their impact in the classroom, commitment to students and continued advancement of teaching excellence.

For Yeager, the recognition is especially meaningful because it comes from colleagues within her profession.

"It was an honor to be recognized as the 2026 Western Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Teaching Award recipient with over 10 years of experience," Yeager said. "Our profession has a lot of excellent teachers, and to be recognized for my work in

the classroom and through the scholarship of teaching is truly an honor."

Throughout her career at Kansas State University, Yeager has been committed to creating engaging learning experiences that encourage students to think critically and apply economic concepts to real-world challenges.

Her dedication to teaching excellence has had a lasting impact on undergraduate education and reflects the department's longstanding commitment to student success.



Bergtold named **WAEA FELLOW**

Dr. Jason Bergtold has been named a 2026 Fellow of the Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA), the organization's highest honor recognizing individuals who have made enduring contributions to the profession throughout their careers.

The WAEA Fellow designation recognizes outstanding achievement in agricultural, resource and environmental economics through excellence in areas such as research, teaching, outreach, service and leadership. Each year, no more than three individuals are selected for the prestigious honor.

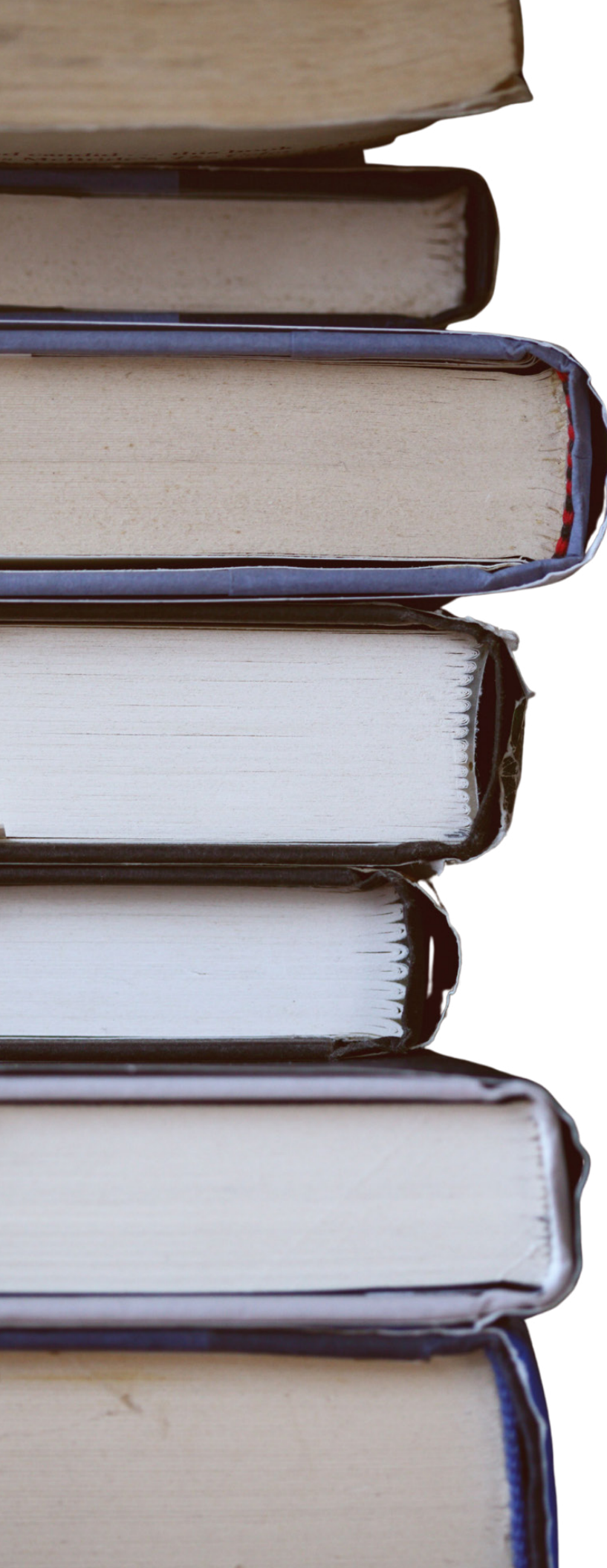
Bergtold's selection reflects his longstanding commitment to advancing the field of agricultural economics through impactful research, innovative teaching, dedicated mentorship and service to both the profession and the university. Throughout his career at Kansas State University, he has built a reputation for developing practical economic solutions to complex agricultural challenges while preparing the next generation of agricultural economists.

Established to recognize members whose careers have made lasting contributions to agricultural and applied economics across the western United States, the WAEA Fellow designation honors individuals who have demonstrated

excellence in multiple areas of professional achievement while maintaining active service to the association.

Previous WAEA Fellows from the department include Dr. Glynn Tonsor in 2025, Dr. Ted Schroeder in 2009, and Dr. Andrew Barkley in 2008.





“Having multiple faculty members serving in editorial roles demonstrates the breadth and depth of expertise within the department and highlights our commitment to advancing science beyond our own research programs.”

Professor Dustin Pendell, *Preventative Veterinary Medicine* Editorial Council member

“We are involved in shaping the scientific publications in our profession and beyond to make sure that we are meeting the needs of our profession and the scientific community.”

Professor Jason Bergtold, co-editor of *Applied Economics Education & Extension*

PAVING THE WAY

Department faculty serve in numerous editorial roles for scientific publications spanning the agricultural industry

An editorial appointment is often one of a few key career-defining moments for higher education faculty.

In the Agricultural Economics Department, over 10 faculty members currently serve in editorial roles for scientific publications. These publications span the agricultural industry, including journals focusing on animal health, teaching, farm economics, industrial organization, food, and agribusiness. This highlights the inseparable connection of economic research to all agricultural issues.

For faculty, serving in an editorial role is not only an indicator of their dedication to research and innovation, it's also a responsibility. Editorial appointments provide an important opportunity to guide research toward what will best serve the needs of the greater scientific community and society in general.

"We need to be involved in shaping

the scientific publications in our profession and beyond to make sure that we are meeting the needs of our profession and the scientific community," said Professor Jason Bergtold, co-editor of *Applied Economics Education & Extension*.

Beyond that, scientific research often paves the way for future funding, teaching, and policy decisions. At a land-grant university like K-State, putting high-caliber research in the hands of decision-makers is a priority that helps strengthen the agricultural industry.

"By helping with the peer-review process and maintaining high scientific standards, I contribute to the dissemination of reliable information that veterinarians, researchers, industry leaders, and policymakers can use to make evidence-based decisions," said Professor Dustin Pendell, editorial council member of *Preventative Veterinary Medicine*.

Jason Bergtold
Co-Editor, Applied Economics
Teaching Resources, 2018-Present

Antonina Broyaka
Member of the Editorial Board of the Scientific Journal of the Vinnytsia National Agrarian University
Economy, Finances, Management:
Topical Issues of Science and Practical Activity, 2018-Present

Jennifer Ifft
Editorial Council, Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 2024-2026

Dan O'Brien
Editorial Team Member for the Western Economics Forum (WEF) affiliated with the Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA)

Dustin Pendell
Editorial Council: Preventive Veterinary Medicine

Aleksan Shanoyan
Managing Editor, International Food and Agribusiness Management Review, 2015-Present

Editorial Board Member, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, December 2024-Present

Glynn Tonsor
Western Agricultural Economics Association, 2002-Present

JARE Editorial Council, 2025-2028

Nelson Villoria
Co-Editor, Agricultural Economics, 2025-2028

Tian Xia
Associate Editor, Journal of Agricultural & Food Industrial Organization, 2009-Present

Elizabeth Yeager
Editor of the Journal of Applied Farm Economics, 2015-Present





Featherstone named AAEA Fellow

Dr. Allen Featherstone has been named a 2026 Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), the association's highest and most prestigious honor recognizing a lifetime of contributions to agricultural and applied economics.

The AAEA Fellow designation recognizes individuals whose careers have advanced the profession through excellence in research, teaching, extension, leadership, and service. Featherstone joins an elite group of agricultural economists whose work has had a lasting impact on the discipline. He is only the second Kansas State University faculty member to receive the honor, following Dr. Ted Schroeder in 2025.

Over nearly four decades at Kansas State University, Featherstone has helped shape the Department of Agricultural Economics into one of the nation's premier programs. He played a key role in restarting the department's Ph.D. program, founded the Master of Agribusiness (MAB), the first distance-based agribusiness master's program in the United States, and, as department head since 2014, has led initiatives that have elevated the department into the top 25 globally in several international rankings.

An internationally recognized scholar in agricultural finance and farm management, Featherstone's research has advanced understanding of farmland values, agricultural credit markets, farm financial management and risk. His work has influenced public policy, informed congressional discussions on farm programs and been featured by national

media outlets including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *The Economist*.

Beyond his research accomplishments, Featherstone has made a lasting impact through graduate education and mentorship. Since founding the Master of Agribusiness program in 1998, the program has educated more than 800 professionals working throughout the global food, agriculture, and animal health industries, while his mentorship has guided dozens of master's and doctoral students.

Reflecting on the recognition, Featherstone was quick to credit the people who have shared in the department's success.

"Receiving this honor is incredibly meaningful because it comes from colleagues whom I have respected throughout my career," Featherstone said. "While this recognition bears my name, it really reflects the outstanding faculty, staff and students I've had the privilege to work alongside at Kansas State University."

He also emphasized the department's collective commitment to the land-grant mission.

"I've always believed our greatest impact comes from combining excellent research, outstanding teaching and meaningful outreach," he said. "Watching our faculty and graduates make a difference in agriculture around the world has been the most rewarding part of my career."

IN THE PHOTO ABOVE DR. ALLEN FEATHERSTONE PROVIDES REMARKS ON RECEIVING THE AAEA FELLOW AWARD.

HONORED FOR *Excellence in Teaching*

Dr. Logan Britton honored for his dedication to student success at K-State and beyond

For Dr. Logan Britton, teaching is more than delivering course content. It's about helping students develop the confidence and skills to succeed long after graduation. That commitment to student success was recognized in 2026 with an impressive collection of teaching and leadership honors from university, regional, and national organizations.

This year, Britton received the Distinguished Teaching Award (9 years or less) from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Western Agricultural Economics Association Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award (Less than 10 Years), the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Scholar Award, the Kansas City Agribusiness Council Young Leader in Agribusiness Award, the K-State Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Teaching Award, and the Grand President's Award from Kansas State University's Alpha Zeta Chapter.

"It's incredibly humbling to receive recognition for my teaching and work with students," Britton said. "I'm especially grateful to the teachers, mentors, colleagues, and students who have shaped me along the way. I would not be the person or teacher I am today without the strong foundation I received in this department and college as both an undergraduate and graduate student."

As a K-State alumnus, Britton sees the awards not only as a personal achievement but also as a reflection of the department's longstanding commitment to teaching excellence.

"Teaching has long been an important part of the department, and it is rewarding to contribute to that mission for today's

students," he said. "Being recognized by AAEA and WAEA is especially meaningful because those honors come from the national and regional organizations in our profession. I hope this recognition reflects the department's commitment to teaching well and preparing students to think critically, make informed decisions, and contribute to the industries and communities they will serve."

While honored by the recognition, Britton remains focused on continually improving the student experience.

"Awards are meaningful, but they also remind me there is still more work to do," he said. "There are always new ways to engage students, strengthen courses, and help students prepare for the opportunities ahead. My favorite part of teaching is helping students build confidence in their own thinking, set meaningful goals, and do the work to accomplish them."



IN THE PHOTO DR. LOGAN BRITTON WITH HIS 2026 AWARDS.



Honoring **A CAREER OF SERVICE**

Llewelyn receives Extension Award as he prepares to retire

For more than two decades, Dr. Rich Llewelyn has helped Kansas producers navigate uncertainty, understand complex agricultural issues and make informed management decisions. As he retires in early October, the Department of Agricultural Economics celebrates his outstanding career and congratulates him on receiving the 2026 College of Agriculture Extension Award.

The award recognizes faculty whose commitment to extension has made a lasting impact on Kansas agriculture through education, outreach and service, which is an apt reflection of Llewelyn's career.

"That was really cool, and unexpected," Llewelyn said of receiving the award. "There are a lot of very deserving people, both in our department and in the college, so to receive that was a big honor. And there's a lot of folks who were part of me receiving that, like our faculty who provide the content for AgManager.info, and our webinars and meetings, and other staff here

who help make things happen. I looked good because of the work of a lot of other folks.”

Throughout his career, Llewelyn has been a driving force behind AgManager.info, helping develop it into one of the nation’s premier online resources for agricultural economics information. He is especially proud of the role the site has played in providing timely, research-based information to producers, lenders and agricultural professionals through online resources, publications, webinars and in-person meetings.

Among his many accomplishments, Llewelyn also points to helping develop the undergraduate Returning to the Farm course and teaching Commodity Price Analysis, where he enjoyed watching students connect economic principles to real-world events.

“It’s fun when the light goes on,” he said. “One former student recently emailed me during the Iran conflict and said he remembered something from class that helped him understand what was happening during volatile times: ‘Prices go up. Prices go down.’”

Llewelyn credits much of his own success to the colleagues and mentors who supported him throughout his career. As a graduate student, he recalls learning from faculty members Drs. Jeff Williams and Bryan Schurle, while later benefiting from the guidance of Drs. Art Barnaby, Mykel Taylor, Kevin Dhuyvetter and Jim Mintert. He also expressed appreciation for his current teammates, including Mary Winnie, Robin Reid, Ashlee Westerhold and Dan O’Brien.

“When I was a grad student, I really enjoyed doing the master’s degree. It was a lot of fun being in the attic with other grad students, and it pushed me, but wasn’t over my head. When I came back for the Ph.D., I thought it would be a

few more years like the M.S. studies had been, but wow, it was a whole lot harder. I made it through but wasn’t sure if I would. Some other grad students and my advisor pulled me through,” he said.

“When I took this position, I didn’t know what to expect. The first month was crazy pulling together the Risk and Profit conference. I really wondered what I had gotten myself into, but Mary Winnie helped keep me from going under. There were a lot of folks who helped me with stuff along the way.”

“The best thing about this job was working with folks who were intent on providing the best education and resources we could find...”

Dr. Rich Llewelyn

Looking back, several moments stand out, from helping producers understand the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs following the 2014 Farm Bill to quickly launching educational webinars during the COVID-19 pandemic to answer producers’ questions during an unprecedented time.

But more than any single accomplishment, Llewelyn says the people made the difference.

“The best thing about this job was working with folks who were intent on providing the best education and resources we could to the people who were looking to us to help them understand things,” he said. “There were a lot of good folks to work with here in the last 20 years.”

The Department of Agricultural Economics thanks Dr. Rich Llewelyn for his years of dedicated service, congratulates him on this well-deserved recognition and wishes him all the best in retirement. **We invite everyone to join us on Thursday, October 8 from 5-8 p.m. at Keats Park to celebrate his retirement.**



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PURPLE *Prestige*

Ted Schroeder Receives Prestigious Amethyst Award for Lifetime of Service and Contributions to K-State

By Taylor Provine, K-State News and Communications Services



IN THE PHOTO DR. TED SCHROEDER RECEIVES THE AMETHYST AWARD FROM UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RICHARD LINTON

Ted Schroeder's tenure at Kansas State University spans 40 years, and throughout his lifetime of service, he has contributed significantly to advancing the university's mission. Now, the university distinguished professor of agricultural economics is the recipient of the Amethyst Award, K-State's most prestigious award.

The Amethyst Award recognizes extraordinary contributions of those who personify the university's mission of advancing the well-being of Kansas, the nation and the international community. The awardee also possesses a deep commitment to leadership.

"Dr. Schroeder has advanced the university through his impactful research, extensive publications and the countless students he has mentored during his 40-year tenure at Kansas State University," said President Richard Linton. "His impressive achievements reflect his deep dedication to the university and will undoubtedly inspire future generations of researchers and innovators."

Schroeder joined the university in 1986 as an assistant professor and achieved full professor status in 1996. He was named a university distinguished professor in 2004.

A rare and extraordinary honor, the university awarded the first Amethyst Award to Amy Button Renz, former president and CEO of the K-State Alumni Association, in 2012.

"The Amethyst Award recognition is an honor beyond comprehension," Schroeder said. "To even be considered to join a list with the likes of Amy Button Renz, a K-State icon, is immensely humbling. I am forever grateful for the fantastic collaborators I have had the opportunity to work with, the truly amazing students I have had the privilege of engaging with, and the agricultural industry leaders I have learned so much from over the years. I thank President Linton and the gracious supporters of K-State and our programs for this generous notation."

An Icon of the Beef Industry

Schroeder's research focuses on improving commodity market efficiency by investigating price discovery methods and advancing market coordinating mechanisms and applied risk management. A notable expert in the beef industry, he has authored or co-authored 148 peer-reviewed articles, nine book chapters and more than 63 research reports.

Schroeder has been principal or co-investigator on more than 60 grants totaling \$6.6 million of direct support to K-State, as well as leading efforts to secure approximately \$4 million in gifts supporting student experiential education. In 1995, when the beef industry

was facing challenges, Schroeder was instrumental in advising a group that developed U.S. Premium Beef, a grid premium program for producers that changed the demand equation for the U.S. beef industry by developing incentives that led to the production of higher quality beef.

"The Kansas beef sector is recognized around the world for its robust production capacity and impressive efficiency," a nominator said. "Many people had a hand in building that reputation; I contend none has done more than Ted Schroeder to help the sector make sound business decisions today and understand the macro- and micro-forces shaping it for the long run."

Schroeder is passionate about helping others understand agriculture and the economics of the beef industry. He advises state and federal legislators on agricultural policy. According to his nomination, he is a favorite presenter at many industry gatherings for his ability to synthesize and discuss complex concepts and create useful takeaways for producers. He is also a routine source for trade and national press and has been featured in numerous top outlets.

Schroeder's Awards of Excellence, Leadership and Service

Over the course of his tenure, Schroeder has received numerous recognitions, including the Mark and Eva Gardiner Innovation and Excellence Faculty Award for his innovative teaching and research as well as his positive impact on the global food system. He also received the Outstanding Alumni Award, Agricultural Economics from the University of Nebraska; U.S. Meat Export Federation Eric Choon Memorial Research Award; and Distinguished Scholar, Western Agricultural Economics Association.

Of his many accolades, Schroeder said that by far, his greatest honor comes from seeing his former students achieve extraordinary success in industry, academia and life.

He has served in several leadership positions, including as editor of the Review of Agricultural Economics, associate editor of the Journal of Commodity Markets, CME Group Agricultural Market Advisory Council, and president of the Western Agricultural Economics Association. He was also the founding director of K-State's Center for Risk Management Education and Research.

He received his bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and his doctorate in agricultural economics from Iowa State University.

A Presidential **ACCOMPLISHMENT**

Shanoyan honored for excellence in undergraduate teaching

Dr. Aleksan Shanoyan's dedication to student success has earned him one of Kansas State University's highest teaching honors. Shanoyan, professor of agricultural economics, received the 2026 Presidential Faculty Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the category recognizing faculty who teach classes with fewer than 40 students.

Presented by the Office of the President and the Curtin Property Company, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching recognize faculty who demonstrate exceptional compassion, creativity and dedication in undergraduate education.

Throughout his 15 years at K-State, Shanoyan has earned a reputation for engaging students through innovative teaching methods and a commitment to continuous improvement. An early adopter of classroom technologies that encourage interaction and real-time learning assessment, he has created an environment where students are active participants in the learning process.

One student summarized his impact by noting:

"He truly cares about continuously improving his classes, and his dedication to his students and their success is a big part of why my time at K-State was so impactful."

For Shanoyan, the recognition reflects not only his own efforts but also the culture of excellence within the Department of Agricultural Economics.

"Receiving this award is a great honor because I know we have many exceptional and deserving instructors at K-State," Shanoyan said. "I am grateful to the Department of Agricultural Economics and the College of Agriculture for nominating me and for their dedication to teaching excellence."

As he reflected on the honor, Shanoyan credited the faculty who came before him.

"I feel fortunate to be able to continue the tradition of teaching excellence in our department, following in the footsteps of Dr. Andrew Barkley, Dr. Jason Bergtold and many other outstanding colleagues and mentors," he said.

Above all, Shanoyan attributes the rewarding nature of teaching to the students he has worked with throughout his career.

"At K-State, we have the most hardworking, respectful and engaged students a teacher could ask for," he said. "They make teaching class every day a positive, fruitful and rewarding experience. I would like to dedicate this award to the generations of students whom I have had the privilege of teaching over the past 15 years at K-State."

The Department of Agricultural Economics congratulates Dr. Shanoyan on this well-deserved recognition and thanks him for his continued commitment to inspiring students and advancing excellence in undergraduate education.



TOP PHOTO L TO R: DR. ALLEN FEATHERSTONE, UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RICHARD LINTON, DR. ALEKSAN SHANOYAN, UNIVERSITY PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT JESSE PEREZ MENDEZ, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE ELDON GIDEON DEAN DAN MOSER, AND DR. LOGAN BRITTON

BOTTOM PHOTO UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RICHARD LINTON PHOTOGRAPHS DR. ALEKSAN SHANOYAN WITH ONE OF HIS CLASSES



MANAGING RISK, *Building Leaders*

Risk Camp equips K-State students with cutting-edge technical skills, industry connections and real-world experience to navigate an increasingly complex future

For most students, January intersession means squeezing in the last few days of winter break before spring classes begin. For a group of Kansas State University Risk Management Fellows, however, the week before the semester starts is anything but ordinary.

Instead of easing back into campus life, fellows return early for Risk Camp, an intensive week-long experience hosted by the Risk Management Center that immerses students in the many dimensions of risk and decision-making. This year, 32 fellows representing more than a dozen academic majors participated in the voluntary program, spending five **days** learning from industry professionals, building technical skills, and exploring how risk affects nearly every aspect of business and life.

The program is designed around a central idea: risk is not one-dimensional. While many students may initially think of risk in terms of finance or insurance, Risk Camp challenges fellows to view it through a much broader lens.

“Risk Camp helps students learn how to think across risk categories rather than treat risk as a single concept,” Dr. Joe Parcell, Agricultural Economics Professor and Risk Management Center Director, said. “The week gives fellows practical exposure to data, markets, credit, operations, weather, and industry decision-making.”

For Eli Boden, junior in agribusiness and Risk Management Fellow, the experience stood out because it exposed students to emerging technologies that are rapidly changing the profession.

“Risk Camp was one of the most unique and interesting experiences I have had during college,” Boden said. “We were able to use tools and techniques involving artificial intelligence, model building, coding and large-scale data analysis that are quickly changing the industry. It was exciting to learn skills that are shaping the future of risk management and decision-making.”

“ Risk Camp was one of the most unique and interesting experiences I have had during college. ”

Eli Boden, junior in agribusiness and Risk Management Fellow

Throughout the week, students moved between technical training, applied discussions, industry engagement, and site-based learning experiences. Sessions included Python 101, data cleaning and organizing, data visualization, prediction and forecasting, STB rail service data analysis, operational risk, market and price risk, weather peril events, and credit risk.

“One of the strengths of Risk Camp is the variety of perspectives students encounter in a single week,” Parcell said. “The agenda combines technical sessions from diverse industries and approaches to identifying, prioritizing, and optimizing risk.”

Boden said one of the biggest takeaways was learning to apply artificial intelligence and data analytics to solve real-world problems.

“One of the most valuable things I learned was how to use AI and data-driven approaches to analyze large datasets and build models that can help support real-world decisions,” he said. “I think it is really important to learn these skills and stay up to date with the fast-changing world of AI, and Dr. Parcell did an amazing job of that.”

Beyond the classroom setting, Risk Camp gives fellows opportunities to see how risk management principles play out in real organizations and industries. Students heard from professionals representing BNSF, Sobba

Public, CME Group, ILS, Aon, and Frontier Farm Credit, while also participating in an on-site experience at the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF), where they explored biological risk and large-scale decision-making in a real-world setting.

For Boden, the opportunity to interact with industry professionals and fellow students was just as valuable as the technical training.

"My favorite part of the week was the opportunity to meet and learn from professionals working in a variety of fields," he said. "Hearing about their experiences and career paths gave me a much broader perspective on the opportunities available in risk management and related industries. I also really enjoyed getting to know the other fellows. Everyone was dedicated to learning and helping each other, which is what made the program so special."

The week also served as a reminder of the enduring connections within the Department of Agricultural Economics community. Two of the week's featured speakers, Alan Sobba ('80)

and Garrett Lister ('12, '14), are Ag Econ alumni, returning to campus to share their professional experiences and insights with current students. For fellows, the experience offers far more than technical knowledge. It creates an environment where students strengthen analytical skills, connect with professionals, and better understand the uncertainty and complexity that shape industries across agriculture, business, and beyond.

"Risk Camp gave me a unique opportunity to explore new technologies, learn from industry leaders and connect with fellow students," Boden said. "It challenged me to think differently about risk and data analysis while also helping me build valuable professional relationships. I would highly recommend the program to other students interested in learning about the future of risk management."

By the time spring classes began, Risk Camp participants had already spent a week expanding perspectives, building connections, and developing tools that will serve them well long after graduation.



2026 Scholarship Recipients

Scholarships make a lasting difference for our students. Thanks to the generosity of our alumni, friends and industry partners. These gifts help students achieve their academic and career goals while strengthening the future of agriculture.

Aaron Patrick Morrison Scholarship

Aiden Weeks

Adrian John Polansky II Scholarship

Benedict Baxa

Allen and Weir Families' Agribusiness Scholarship

Kena Sterling

Bill Hanson Crop Insurance Professionals Association Memorial Scholarship

Mitchell Bosse

CHS Foundation Scholarship

Kennedy Coffin
Kendall Geist
Amelia Meng
Claire Nelson
Kristin Partlow
Maiya Shelor
Alana Suderman

Charles Dean and Harriet McNeal Memorial Scholarship

Kylie Baalman
Rebecca Felix
Tayton Gerdes
Sydney Heller
Andrew Lumsden
Kyler Murphy
Tucker Stagemeyer

Charles W. and Lois H. Nauheim Agricultural Economics Scholarship

Brett Jerrick
Reagan Morris
Alexis Powelson
Hannah Schreiner

Cleo Harvey Kuhn Scholarship

Caleb Van Booven

CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarship

Eli Boden
Audrey Jones
Jade Peak

Dan and Beth Bird Scholarship in Agricultural Economics

Allayna Moore
Tucker Stagemeyer
Dayton Tally

Dan and Tammy Eilert Family Scholarship

Madelyn King
Garrison Zerger

Dave Woolfolk Scholarship

Garrison Zerger

Duane and Pauline Murphy Agricultural Economics Scholarship

Jace Korf

E. Robert and Donna Kern Agricultural Economics Scholarship

Carter Kramer

Flinchbaugh Agriculture Policy Scholarship

Kylie Temple

George R. Hanson Scholarship in Agriculture

Hayden Duncan
Karsyn Kleeman
Kelsey Whitaker

Gladwin A. Read Memorial Fund

William Ast
Breck Averhoff
Luke Ballin
Ryan Blagg
Claire Boles
Karley Bonham
Breckin Bowin
Brett Burhman
Audrianna Byers
Conner Chamberlain
Nicholas Cipra
Callie Collins
Dylan Cooper
Taryn Cox
Cash Davis
Samuel Derks
Jonah Deters
Landon Duff
Kiersten Elliott
Cailee Flood
Jonathan Frisbie
Brayden Fulton
Dominique Girard
Avery Glasgow
Delaney Goshorn
Emily Hansen
Peter Harrington

Kate Heinen
Sydney Heller
Robert Hert
Taylor Hooper-Deleon
Cooper Jacobsen
Karoline Johnson
Cooper Johnston
Keiton Jones
Emma Judge
Rylan Karr
Karsyn Kleeman
Samuel Knopf
Carter Kramer
Joe Leija
Robert Long
Ethan Lulich
Dillon Mai
Molly Malter
Tyler Marsh
Logan McCarty
Jackson McCurry
Cally Miller
Rylee Miller
Grant Myatt
Sidney Parks
Douglas Peterson
Elijah Peterson
Isaac Pfizenmaier
Riley Rowe
Carson Rudd
Ty Scheer
Sophia Shaffer
Riley Showalter
Blake Skalsky
Zacary Smith
Kjell Stenstrom
Kena Sterling
Matthew Storm
Leah Struckmeyer
Isabella Stubbs
Eli Stuchlik
Bailey Troike

Kahne Truelove
Blake Turner
Rhett Vander Dussen
Aiden Weeks
Rogan Weir
Taylor Wiebe
Savannah Williams
Corbin Winkle
Paige Wood
Kailey Woodcock
Jordyn Wright

Hosea S. Harkness Agricultural Economics Scholarship

Karoline Johnson
Carley Tucker
Ryan Turk

J. Adair Hodges Memorial Fellowship

Nicholas Pearson
Douglas Peterson

James E. Pruden, Jr Memorial Scholarship

Rebecca Felix

Jim and Mary Lou Birkbeck Family Scholarship

Noah Beach
Abigail Robinson

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Scholarships

**John T. and Pearl E.
Bullock Memorial
Scholarship**

Samuel Birdsall

**Joseph Lieber Memorial
Cooperative Scholarship**

Jenna Gengler

**Kansas Ag Bankers
Scholarship**

Sarabeth Martin
Jay Tatum

**Larry Boone Memorial
Scholarship in Agriculture**

Delaney Goshorn

**Lawrence E. Erbes
Agricultural Economics
Scholarship**

Marco Amador
Kelton Cook
Austyn Cox
Jason Cox
Spencer Cramer
Jackson Emig
Ian Floyd
Blake Harrold
Matthew Hendricks
Jace Korf
Grant Niehues
John Te Velde

**Leonard W. Schruben
Agricultural Economics
Scholarship**

Jackson McCurry

**Matthew Kent Stamper
Memorial Scholarship**

Doak Guttery

**Orlen Grunewald
Agricultural Economics
Scholarship**

Luke Fischer

**Otis and Mary Lee Molz
Cooperative Scholarship**

Reygan Schrock

**Packebush Family -
Mary Vanier KSU Family
Scholarship**

Brett Buhrman
Kadence Riddick

**Sam and Martha Logan -
Kruse Family Scholarship**

Kinley Lilleman
Brooke Rogers

**Schroeder Family
Scholarship**

Macie Morris
Natalie Nitchals
Kahne Truelove
Ellie Weers

**Seyfert Family - Vanier
Family Scholarship**

Aleyna Farran
Brayden Fulton

**Stanley G. Wendland
Memorial Scholarship**

Reagan-Kennedy Hudnall
Carley Tucker

**Ted and Jan Heath
Memorial Scholarship
Fund**

Leah Struckmeyer

**Tim Lim Undergraduate
Scholarship in Agriculture**

Brock Armstrong
Austin Fink

**W. Dan and Lynn Weaver
Scholarship**

Jackson Bergkamp

**W.L. "Bill" Webber
Memorial Scholarship**

Carson Rudd

**William S. May
Scholarship for
Agricultural Finance**

Mitchell Bosse
Natalie Davis

\$295,175
in Awards

Outstanding Seniors

Carissa Dalquest



Carissa Dalquest is a native of Council Grove, Kansas, and first completed her associate's degree at Butler Community College. During her time at K-State, she has served as a research assistant in the department, a student fellow with the Center for Risk Management, and vice president of the Ag Econ/Agribusiness Club. She was also a member of the reserve national champion livestock judging and meat animal evaluation teams and was named an All-American. Carissa has interned with the USDA Center for Grain and Animal Health Research and U.S. Senator Roger Marshall's office. Following graduation, she spent the summer with the Kansas Soybean Association before attending Texas A&M University School of Law to pursue a career in food and agricultural law and policy.

Gillian Mae Villa

Gillian Villa is originally from Santa Maria, California. During her time at Kansas State University, Gillian was actively involved in Ag Ambassadors, undergraduate research, and was president of the NAMA competition team.

She has also represented the K-State College of Agriculture in a variety of national collegiate associations such as Farm Foundation, AFA, MANRRS, and IFAMA. Following graduation, Gillian has accepted a position with PepsiCo as an Associate Procurement Analyst.



Mackenzie Malson



Mackenzie Malson, originally from Parma, Idaho, graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and global food systems leadership, with minors in international agriculture and communications and education for agriculture. Throughout her time at K-State, Mackenzie served as an officer for the College of Agriculture Ambassadors and the K-State chapter of Sigma Alpha. She was involved as a Risk Management Center Student Fellow, Agricultural Economics Ambassador, a Kansas Farm Bureau Collegiate Fellow, and a member of Class Seven of the Kansas Corn Collegiate Academy. Mackenzie also completed internships with Rabo AgriFinance, Kansas Farm Bureau, and the University of Idaho, and worked as an undergraduate research assistant in the agricultural economics department. These experiences shaped her career goals and built upon her passion for the livestock industry. Following graduation, Mackenzie is pursuing a master's degree in agricultural economics with a focus on livestock economics.

Cambree Schmaltz

Cambree Schmaltz grew up in Bayard, Nebraska, where she was heavily involved in her family's cow/calf and backgrounding feedyard operation. Her passion for the beef industry led her to publish undergraduate research with Dr. Ted Schroeder and complete internships at Adams Land & Cattle and Balance4ward. During her three years at K-State she has engaged in leadership and membership in College of Agriculture Ambassadors, the Risk Management Center, Interdisciplinary Risk Management Association, Collegiate Cattlewomen, and the Beef Cattle Institute Leadership Experience. Study abroad experiences in Costa Rica with First Generation Student Service and Argentina with the Animal Science Department have broadened her perspective on agricultural practices. After graduation, Cambree is back in the Nebraska panhandle and serving in a Livestock Risk Protection Operations Support role with Compass Ag Solutions.



MS/Ph.D. Placements

Our graduates do more than earn advanced degrees. They build meaningful careers and make an impact across industries and communities around the world. Recent master's and Ph.D. graduates from K-State Agricultural Economics have accepted positions in academia, government, agribusiness, finance, policy, and beyond. Their success reflects the strength of our programs, the dedication of our faculty mentors, and our commitment to preparing students for leadership in an evolving global economy.

2026

M.S.

- **Weston Guetterman**, Sod Shop, Office Manager
- **Lauren Trecek**, Agriculture Instructor, Highland Community College

Ph.D.

- **Mariam Gharib**, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Extension Economics, New Mexico State University
- **Manoj Sharma**, Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of California, Davis in the Institute of Transportation Studies (his role in the project will be to examine the indirect land use change (ILUC) effect of biofuel policies)

2025

M.S.

- **Katy Doumit**, Beef Supply Chain Analyst, Cattlenomics
- **Matias Duque**,
- **Kunle Jimoh**, Quality Assurance Specialist II, Boston

Bio Products, Massachusetts

- **Delide Joseph**, Continuing Education
- **Calder McCollum**, Loan Officer, GN Bank
- **Maccoy Sitka**, Palmer Food Services, Rochester, NY
- **Jenae Tilford**, Business Intelligence Analyst, Sandhills Global, Department of Data Operations and Management
- **Parker Vulgamore**, J.D. Candidate at Harvard Law School
- **Bryston Warren**, Risk Management Associate, StoneX Group Inc.

Ph.D.

- **Walter Ac-Pangan**, Instructor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech
- **Kristiina Ala-Kokko**, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Arkansas
- **Merri Beth Day**, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University
- **Jiyeon Kim**, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics at North Dakota State University
- **Bailey Peterson-Wilhelm**, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Saskatchewan
- **Priyanka Sharma**, Institute for Integrative and Innovative Research (I³R) at the University of Arkansas as a Postdoctoral Fellow; Economist, Strategy & Game Theory Applications, Fayetteville, Arkansas

The Global Reign **CONTINUES**

K-State reign as IFAMA world champions continues

K-State Agricultural Economics students once again proved they are among the best in the world, with both the undergraduate and graduate teams capturing first-place titles at the 2026 International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) World Conference Case Study Competition in Cork, Ireland.

Competing against top universities from around the globe, both teams demonstrated exceptional analytical thinking, teamwork and innovative problem-solving skills throughout the multi-day competition to earn world championship honors, continuing K-State's remarkable tradition of excellence on the international stage.

"To be the best of eight truly competitive graduate teams is an award that will last us a lifetime," Kylie Bedel, M.S. student and member of the graduate team, said. "The cases focused on Ireland's AgTech industry and how it can spur growth within the sector. Dr. Aleksan Shanoyan truly prepared us the best way possible for this competition, and his support and coaching are outstanding."

Bedel said the world championship was the culmination of countless hours of preparation.

"Winning first place at IFAMA was the result of weeks of preparation, support from professors and our families, a strong team mentality, some caffeine and a

tiny bit of luck," she said.

The Undergraduate Case Study team was made up of Delaney New, senior in agricultural economics; Gillian Mae Villa, senior in agribusiness; and Isaac Wilber, junior in agribusiness. The Graduate Case Study team included Bedel, Hannah Parker, M.S.; Lauren Phillips, M.S.; Madison Pearson, M.S.; and Armen Khachatryan, Ph.D.

“What made this experience so meaningful was the opportunity to collaborate with talented teammates while exploring the global challenges and opportunities shaping modern agriculture.”

Gillian Mae Villa, senior in agribusiness

"When I was approached in April to represent the University, I immediately said yes. What I didn't know then was how challenging, rewarding and transformative the experience would be. Looking back, it's hard to believe that a conversation a few

months ago would lead to standing on a global stage alongside Delaney and Isaac as world champions!" Villa said. "What made this experience so meaningful was the opportunity to collaborate with talented teammates while exploring the global challenges

and opportunities shaping modern agriculture. Agriculture is increasingly interconnected, and this competition reinforced the importance of innovation, strategic thinking and international perspectives in solving industry challenges.”

The competition occurs over several days and progressively advances in complexity through an elimination process that identifies the top-tier teams, who pitch their solutions before the entire conference.

“The format was simple but demanding,” Villa said. “Over three days of competition, we were given just four hours each day to read the case, identify key challenges and opportunities, develop strategic recommendations and deliver a presentation to a panel of industry judges. Each round introduced new developments and challenges, requiring us to continuously adapt our analysis, refine our recommendations and respond to changing circumstances.”

Graduate student Armen Khachatryan said the experience challenged the team to think beyond the classroom.

“Preparing for this competition pushed us to think like real consultants, not just students,” he said.

“We had to turn Ireland’s AgTech challenge into a concrete strategy with numbers that could hold up to industry judges, and that process taught me more than any classroom assignment could.”

For more than 20 years, IFAMA has hosted the only global agribusiness competition for undergraduate, graduate-level and early career professionals pursuing careers in the food and agriculture sector, establishing itself as the premier event showcasing the next generation of talent and future leaders. “The competition was one of the hardest things I’ve been a part of, but it was also one of the most rewarding. Looking back, I don’t think winning was what made IFAMA so special. It was everything that happened before our names were called—the practices, the feedback, stepping outside my comfort zone, and getting to experience it all with a team that believed in each other,” New said. “I think what made our team so successful was that each of us knew what we were good at and weren’t afraid to let each other do what we did best.”

Madison Pearson said the experience reinforced the power of teamwork and creative problem solving.

“Winning the 2026 IFAMA World Conference Case Study Competition in Ireland was an incredible honor,” Pearson said. “It showed me what could be



accomplished through collaboration, creative problem solving, and bringing new ideas to real challenges in global agriculture. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent Kansas State University internationally and proud of what our team accomplished together.”

For Hannah Parker, the competition demonstrated how the skills developed at K-State translate directly to real-world challenges.

“Winning the IFAMA case competition highlighted how the skills and knowledge we have gained on campus can be applied to current issues facing the ag industry globally,” Parker said.

The victories continue an extraordinary run of success for K-State Agricultural Economics. Since 2021, K-State undergraduate and graduate teams have captured IFAMA world championships in 2021, 2023, 2024, 2025 and now 2026, solidifying the department’s reputation as one of the world’s premier agribusiness programs.

“This was an intense competition with the panel of judges consisting of the world’s top agribusiness thought leaders and industry executives. The solutions presented by our teams stood out due to their creative, data-driven and practical approach based on thorough economic analysis,” Dr. Aleksan Shanoyan, professor of agricultural economics and coach of both teams, said.

He continued, “This year’s first-place wins continue the strong tradition of K-State Agricultural Economics students placing at the top of national and international competitions. This is a true testament to the quality of our students and the world-class agribusiness education they receive at the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics.”



IN THE PHOTO ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE UNDERGRADUATE CASE STUDY CHAMPION TEAM, L TO R: ISAAC WILBER, DELANEY NEW, GILLIAN MAE VILLA, AND DR. ALEKSAN SHANOYAN

IN THE PHOTO BELOW GRADUATE CASE STUDY CHAMPION TEAM, L TO R: ARMEN KHACHATRYAN, MADISON PEARSON, KYLIE BEDEL, LAUREN PHILLIPS, HANNAH PARKER, AND DR. ALEKSAN SHANOYAN

Student Awards

Kristiina Ala-Kokko

Outstanding Dissertation Award for “Cultivar Innovation: Impacts on Adoption and Potential for Adaptation.” Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA), 2026.

Outstanding Dissertation Award for “Cultivar Innovation: Impacts on Adoption and Potential for Adaptation.” Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department, 2026.

Kanyon Alexander

Graduate Student Council Membership Outreach Coordinator. Kansas State University Graduate School, 2026.

Kylie Bedel, Hannah Parker, Lauren Phillips, Madison Pearson, and Armen Khachatryan

1st Place, Graduate Student Case Study. International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA), 2026.

Delide Joseph

1st Place, Graduate Student Extension Competition. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2026.

Delaney New, Gillian Mae Villa, and Isaac Wilber

1st Place, Undergraduate Student Case Study. International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA), 2026.

Anup Paudel

2nd Place, GSS/C-Fare Policy Communication. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2026.

Lauren Phillips, Madison Pearson, and Ernesto Molina Anavisca

3rd Place (Tie), AEM-Graduate Student Case Study Competition. Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2026.

Parker Vulgamore

Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award for “A Non-Parametric Approach to Estimating Nonlinear Impacts of Early Season Soil Moisture on Dryland Corn Yields.” Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), 2026.

Outstanding Thesis Award for “A Non-Parametric Approach to Estimating Nonlinear Impacts of Early Season Soil Moisture on Dryland Corn Yields.” Kansas State University Agricultural Economics Department, 2026.

A World **OF SALES EXPERIENCE**

“ I think a lot of people hear ‘sales’ and immediately think it’s not for them, but this experience is about so much more than sales. ”

Kadence Riddick, senior in agribusiness

Ready! Set! Sell! event uses mock sales interactions to prepare students for futures in sales

For students in AGEC 535 - Agricultural Sales, the “Ready! Set! Sell!” event (RSS) is a sometimes nerve-racking, but always valuable, experience for those interested in sales.

RSS brings together students and professionals from across the agricultural industry for a night of networking and mock sales interactions designed to simulate real-world customer meetings.

AGEC 535, led by Associate Professor Aaron Johnson, prepares students for this event through a semester-long curriculum centered around relationship selling, communication strategies, customer-focused problem-solving, and professional networking.

“There is no substitute for Ready! Set! Sell!,” said Dr. Johnson. “The semester-long project culminates in a great industry-student interaction where students get to practice so many things taught in the course, and industry professionals consistently bring practical perspectives.”

The RSS event begins with a professional orientation at 4:00 p.m., followed by a networking reception with light appetizers for students and guests. Students

then participate in mock sales role-play sessions in small groups of approximately three to five students per professional.

Ready! Set! Sell! is consistently one of the highlights of the semester for students and has also become a rewarding experience for participating professionals, many of whom return semester after semester. The event strengthens connections between students and industry while helping students build confidence, professionalism, and long-term relationships within the agricultural sector.

For students, RSS is an opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and explore the diversity of sales careers.

"I think a lot of people hear 'sales' and immediately think it's not for them, but this experience is about so much more than sales," said Kadence Riddick, a junior studying agribusiness. "It teaches you to communicate,

build relationships, and be confident in professional situations. Plus, it's a great opportunity to challenge yourself in ways you normally wouldn't."

Kristy Hawkins, a senior territory business manager at Zoetis, has returned to RSS as a sales professional on many occasions over the years. For her, connecting with students passionate about sales keeps her coming back.

"I truly enjoy the insights and feedback discussion after the conclusion of the student sales presentation," said Hawkins. "We do it as a group and review what went well, what good looks like, and how all of us can use this experience to learn, grow, and develop into great sales professionals."

IN THE PHOTO STUDENTS NETWORK WITH SALES PROFESSIONALS DURING READY! SET! SELL!





SPAIN & PORTUGAL

Beyond BORDERS

MAB explores agriculture, business and culture in Spain and Portugal

From dairy farms and olive groves to vineyards and cattle operations, the Kansas State University Master of Agribusiness international farm and agribusiness tour experience once again demonstrated that learning extends far beyond the classroom.

This summer, MAB students, alumni, faculty and guests traveled through Spain and Portugal for an immersive experience that blended agriculture, agribusiness, history and culture across two countries rich in agricultural tradition. The journey provided participants with opportunities to explore global production systems while experiencing the people, landscapes and practices that shape agriculture in the region.

Throughout the trip, participants visited a diverse range of agricultural enterprises, gaining firsthand insight into the similarities and differences between European and U.S. agricultural systems. "Overall, a great trip and such a wonderful way to stay connected to K-State and the industry I love so much," said MAB alumna Megan Espinda ('23), IDEM Agricultural Liaison for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

The tour began in central Spain with a visit to Finca Hualdo, a sheep operation producing traditional Manchego cheese. Participants learned about the interconnected nature of livestock management, land stewardship and artisanal food production while seeing how regional identity and agricultural products are closely linked.

As the group traveled through the Castilla-La Mancha region, famous for the iconic windmills associated with Don Quixote, discussions expanded beyond production practices to include history, culture and the role agriculture has played in shaping communities across generations.

Additional stops highlighted the diversity of agriculture throughout the Iberian Peninsula. Participants visited Los Pastoreros Cooperative near Granada, where they learned about the history and operations of a dairy cooperative producing thousands of liters of milk each day. In southern Spain, the group toured Complejo Agroalimentario de Olvera, an agricultural cooperative that integrates an olive oil mill, feedlot, composting operation and grain storage facilities into a broad agricultural enterprise.



For Sheila Hamlett ('27), MAB student and Senior Director of Food Safety and Environmental, Health & Safety at KLN Family Brands, the variety of agricultural experiences made a lasting impression.

"This trip was fantastic," she said. "The agricultural sites were all very interesting and the guides were knowledgeable. I learned so much about olive oil. I had no idea it was so nuanced. Never would have thought to put it on ice cream, but wow! Cattle, cork, citrus... so much history there. And the wine! Amazing. I can't wait to see where we can go next."

Other visits showcased specialty and value-added agricultural systems, including olive oil production at Basilippo, citrus production at Gospa Citrus, cork forest management and cattle operations at Companhia das Lezírias in Portugal, purebred Red Aberdeen Angus production at Agrotoro, and the A Campo Abierto ranch, where participants experienced Spain's unique tradition of breeding fighting bulls on horseback. Wine production also offered opportunities to explore agricultural value chains through visits to Bodegas Arúspide, Cockburn's Port Lodge and Quinta da Foz.

For Espinda, Portugal offered some of the trip's most memorable agricultural experiences.

"My favorite part of the trip was the cork forest in Portugal," she said. "Harvesting cork nothing I had ever thought about in the world of agriculture prior to this trip." She also enjoyed visiting the UNESCO World Heritage cities of Évora and Coimbra, where centuries of history provided additional context for the region's agricultural traditions.

One of Espinda's favorite experiences came during the group's final winery visit outside Porto, where grapes are still crushed by foot using traditional methods.

"The winery industry's market access in Spain and Portugal is so highly regulated that there is less drive for expansion and mass production," Espinda said. "That allows many wineries to remain small and produce wine in very interesting ways. I also learned a lot about olive oils and what to look for in a good quality cooking oil."

While agricultural learning remained central to the trip, cultural experiences added important context

and perspective. Participants explored historic cities including Madrid, Toledo, Granada, Seville, Lisbon, Porto and Évora. Highlights included visits to the Alhambra Palace, the Real Alcázar, Jerónimos Monastery and the Cathedral of Seville, along with a traditional flamenco performance and opportunities to experience regional cuisine and local customs.

For Kelsey Waugaman ('26), MAB alumna and Orchard Assistant at California State University, Fresno, one of the most memorable cultural experiences was visiting the Alhambra Palace in Granada.

"The stunning views and beautiful gardens left a lasting impression on me, and it was easy to see why it's considered one of Spain's greatest treasures," Waugaman said.

Among the agricultural visits, Waugaman found the A Campo Abierto bull breeding ranch especially memorable.

"Watching the demonstrations, I felt like I had stepped directly into the ranchers' way of life and the world of bullfighting and horses," she said. "It gave me insight into a tradition and industry I had never experienced up close before."

For Tillie Johnson ('28), MAB student and Operations Supervisor at CHS Inc., the carefully planned balance of agriculture and culture made the experience especially memorable.

"My husband and I had never been to Europe before, so being able to go on this trip, have everything planned through the university, while also fulfilling a course for my master's degree was a no-brainer for us," she said. "We really appreciated how the trip was a perfect combination of the typical tourist attractions and the agricultural focus with visits to farms, cooperatives, wineries and small businesses that allowed us to compare them with operations in the U.S."

Johnson added that one of her favorite experiences was visiting A Campo Abierto, where fighting bulls are raised on horseback, followed by the performance at the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art.

"Personally, I'm a huge horse person, so being able to go to A Campo Abierto where they raise fighting

bulls and do everything on horseback, as well as the Royal Andalusian School of Equestrian Art and watching their show was incredibly meaningful to me," Johnson said. "I'd highly recommend this trip to anyone who wants to get the most out of spending two weeks in Spain and Portugal."

The MAB international experience has long served as an opportunity to connect classroom concepts with real-world applications while strengthening the relationships that make the program unique. Throughout the journey, conversations continued on buses, over shared meals and during farm visits, creating an environment where students and alumni learned not only from industry experts, but also from one another.

For Mark Davis ('12), MAB alumnus and Manufacturing Operations Specialist, those conversations became one of the most rewarding aspects of the trip.

"We thoroughly enjoyed the trip. The opportunity to get up close and personal with production agriculture in Spain and Portugal was an unforgettable experience," Davis said. "One of the things I enjoyed most was getting to know the other travelers in our group. We had a diverse group with varying agricultural backgrounds, which led to some very interesting conversations about the differences in production agriculture systems."

Those relationships were among Waugaman's favorite memories as well.

"More than anything, my favorite part of this trip was experiencing the beauty of these countries alongside wonderful people," she said. "The friendships I made along the way turned fellow travelers into people who now feel like a part of my life, and that made every moment even more meaningful."

For Alison Hurwitch ('27), MAB student and Associate Director of Strategic Development and Innovation –

“ We really appreciated how the trip was a perfect combination of the typical tourist attractions and the agricultural focus...”

Tillie Johnson, MAB '28

Cattle Business at Merck Animal Health, the experience extended well beyond agriculture.

"Lisbon and Porto were highlights of the trip for me," Hurwitch said. "I loved the contrast between Lisbon's lively modern feel and Porto's historic charm, and I came away with a deeper appreciation for Portugal's culture, people and beauty." She also found that the region's cuisine became an important part of the experience.

"This trip was unforgettable, and the culinary experience was a major part of that. From Iberico ham and olive oil to fresh seafood and local wine, every meal reflected the richness of the region and made the trip even more meaningful."

By the end of the journey, participants returned home with much more than photographs and souvenirs. They gained a deeper understanding of global agriculture, a broader appreciation for international food systems, and lasting friendships with fellow MAB students, alumni and faculty.

For Davis, the experience exceeded every expectation.

"From production agriculture to historical castles, palaces and cathedrals, every day was an adventure," he said. "With the expert guidance of Mary Sullivan, Dr. Brady Brewer and Victoria Feldkamp, it truly was the trip of a lifetime."

As agriculture becomes increasingly interconnected around the world, experiences like the MAB international farm and agribusiness tour continue to prepare students to think globally while strengthening the relationships that define the MAB community.



From a Kansas Orchard to University Leadership

Marc Johnson reflects on leadership, controversy and lessons learned

Leadership journeys rarely follow a straight path. For Marc A. Johnson, the road began on a peach orchard outside Wichita and eventually led him through classrooms, agricultural economics departments, university administration and ultimately to the presidency of a major public university. Along the way, one constant remained: a commitment to principles and people.

Now, after decades in higher education leadership, Johnson has reflected on those experiences in his recent book, *Principled University Leadership: Critical Decision-*

Making in Academia, a work that examines the realities of leading institutions through challenge, controversy and change.

“Leadership reflects who you are.”

Marc Johnson

Johnson's early experiences in agriculture shaped far more than his work ethic. Growing up in a farming environment sparked a curiosity about larger economic systems and the role agriculture plays in communities and nations.

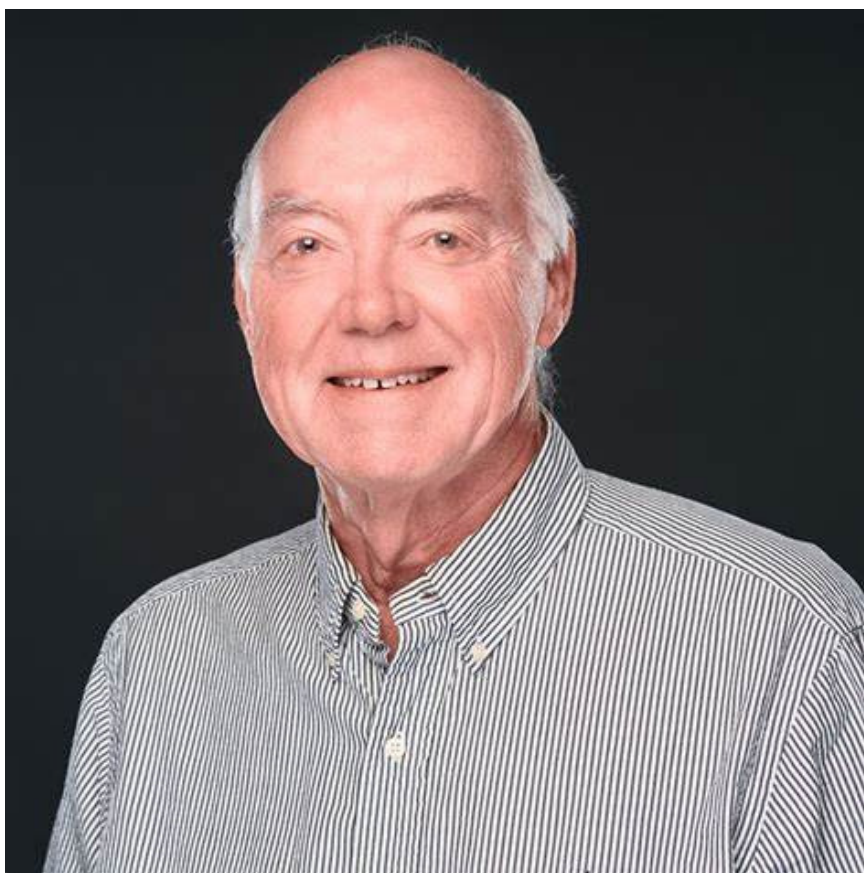
“I became interested in how agriculture drives economic development,” Johnson explained, particularly in regions where agriculture serves as the backbone of local economies.

That interest eventually guided him toward economics and agricultural economics after earning a biology degree from Emporia State

University and later pursuing graduate work in economics and agricultural economics at Michigan State University.

His academic career began as a faculty member in agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University (OSU) before opportunities in administration emerged. Along the way, Johnson observed leaders whose approaches influenced his own. Among them was Dr. Jim Plaxico, Johnson's first department head while at OSU, whose example helped shape Johnson's philosophy of working with people.

Years later, while writing his book, Johnson made an interesting discovery about his own career. Looking back across multiple institutions and roles, he realized that



despite changing titles and responsibilities, he had consistently relied on the same core principles.

"I found that I had really been applying the same ideas over and over," he reflected.

Those ideas became central themes of Principled University Leadership: confidence, diligence and humility. Johnson believes effective leaders must be willing to work hard, recognize the strengths of the people around them and share credit generously.

"Leadership reflects who you are," Johnson said, noting that many leadership traits are shaped early in life.

His leadership principles were often tested in situations where there was no easy answer.

During his administrative career, Johnson faced several high-profile controversies that drew national attention and required difficult decisions under intense public scrutiny. While serving at the University of Nevada, Reno, he led the institution during the national conversation surrounding athlete protests after quarterback Colin Kaepernick began kneeling during the national anthem to protest racial injustice. The issue generated strong reactions from supporters and critics alike, placing university leaders in the center of a highly charged public debate.

Johnson also faced another difficult challenge when a University of Nevada, Reno, student participated in the 2017 Charlottesville, Virginia rally. Many members of the university community called for the student to be expelled because of his involvement in the demonstration.

Johnson said those moments reinforced one of his strongest leadership principles: universities have a responsibility to uphold constitutional rights, even when doing so is unpopular.

"When it comes to free speech, there is no compromise," he said.

Although the decision drew criticism from some, Johnson believed the university could not discipline a student for constitutionally protected speech or

lawful expression that occurred off campus. Instead, he focused on communicating openly with students, faculty, alumni and the public while reaffirming the university's commitment to both free expression and an inclusive campus community.

At the same time, he emphasized that many challenges require a different approach. Questions involving resources, priorities and competing viewpoints often demand listening, communication and a willingness to seek common ground.

Rather than avoiding controversy, Johnson believes leaders must face it directly.

"You have to meet it head-on," he said, explaining that listening carefully and communicating with all sides often helps reduce tension and build understanding.

“ When it comes to free speech, there is no compromise. ”

Marc Johnson

Johnson said experiences like these ultimately became a catalyst for writing Principled University Leadership. He wanted to provide future university leaders with practical guidance for navigating controversy while remaining grounded in institutional values and principled decision-making.

Long before university presidencies and public controversies, Johnson spent an important chapter of his career at Kansas State University.

His decision to become head of K-State's Department of Agricultural Economics was motivated by a desire to strengthen the program and build a leading department in his home state.

Johnson emphasized a management philosophy built on trust and empowerment: hire talented people, provide a clear mission, and allow them the freedom to innovate.

Among the first faculty members he hired were Dr. Allen Featherstone, Dr. Ted Schroeder and Dr. Andy Barkley, individuals who would go on to make lasting contributions to the department and profession. The three are still in the department today, with Featherstone serving as Department Head since

2013. Johnson also credited Dr. Orlan Buller, who was one of the senior faculty members in the department at the time, for supporting growth and change. Throughout his career, Johnson repeatedly returned to one idea: people are an institution's greatest resource.

He described universities as fundamentally built on human capital and highlighted efforts at both K-State and North Carolina State University to strengthen relationships and reduce divisions among groups working toward common goals.

Today, as higher education and agriculture continue to evolve, Johnson sees expanding opportunities for future generations. Agriculture, he noted, now extends far beyond traditional production systems and increasingly intersects with fields such as environmental science, food science and technology.

For current students and young professionals, Johnson's advice remains practical and forward-looking:

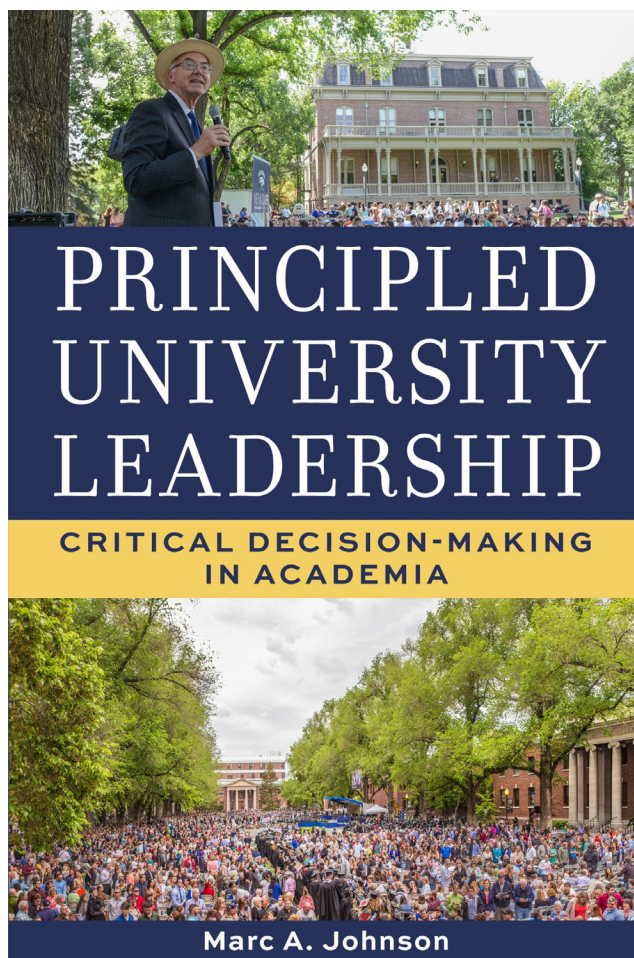
1. Build a strong professional reputation and remember your current classmates are your future colleagues.
2. Don't be afraid and stay open to change.
3. Embrace emerging technologies rather than fear them.
4. Realize college is an investment in your future.

His own career offers a compelling example. From a peach orchard in Kansas to university leadership and now authoring a book that distills decades of experience, Johnson's journey reflects the values that have guided him all along: principles,

preparation and a belief in people. For Johnson, leadership was never simply about titles. It was about staying grounded in values and carrying them forward wherever the journey led.



ORDER JOHNSON'S BOOK *PRINCIPLED UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP: CRITICAL DECISION-MAKING IN ACADEMIA* AT **amazon.com**



Johnson served 39 years in academic leadership positions:

- Associate Department Head, Economics and Business, North Carolina State University (1982–1985)
- Department Head, Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University (1985–1992)
- Dean of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, Kansas State University (1992–2003)
- Vice Provost for Agriculture and Outreach and Dean of Agricultural Sciences, Colorado State University (2003–2008)
- Provost and Executive Vice President, University of Nevada, Reno (2008–2011)
- President, University of Nevada, Reno (2011–2020)

KANSAS COOPERATIVE GRAIN STORAGE:

A Changing Landscape

While the number of cooperatives in Kansas declines, they remain an essential grain storage option, especially in small ag communities

Kansas farmers have long relied on cooperatives as a key link between the field and the marketplace. While the number of farmer-owned cooperatives in Kansas has steadily declined over the past several decades, cooperatives continue to play a major role in the state's grain industry and remain the largest source of commercial grain storage capacity.

According to a recent survey conducted by Kansas State University's Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, a public-private partnership between the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics and the Kansas Cooperative Council, the number of cooperatives headquartered in Kansas has fallen from 81 in 2016 to 54 in 2025. During the same period, the number of cooperative grain storage locations decreased from 552 to 505. The trend reflects ongoing consolidation within the agricultural industry as cooperatives merge operations, modernize facilities, and adjust to changing market conditions.

Yet fewer cooperatives do not necessarily mean less capacity. In fact, Kansas cooperatives controlled approximately 713.5 million bushels of grain storage in 2025, compared to 665 million bushels in 2016. Although storage capacity has declined somewhat since a high point in 2021, today's cooperative system is generally operating larger and more efficient facilities than it did a decade ago.

The changes are part of a much longer trend. In the mid-1950s, Kansas reached a peak of 364 farmer cooperatives. Today, that number stands at 54.

As cooperatives have combined resources and expanded service territories, individual organizations have grown larger, often serving multiple communities across wide geographic areas.

Despite the consolidation, cooperatives remain deeply connected to rural Kansas. Their grain facilities continue to provide convenient delivery points for producers throughout the state. Cooperative-owned storage accounts for approximately 44 percent of Kansas' total grain storage capacity, making it the single largest segment of the state's grain handling infrastructure.

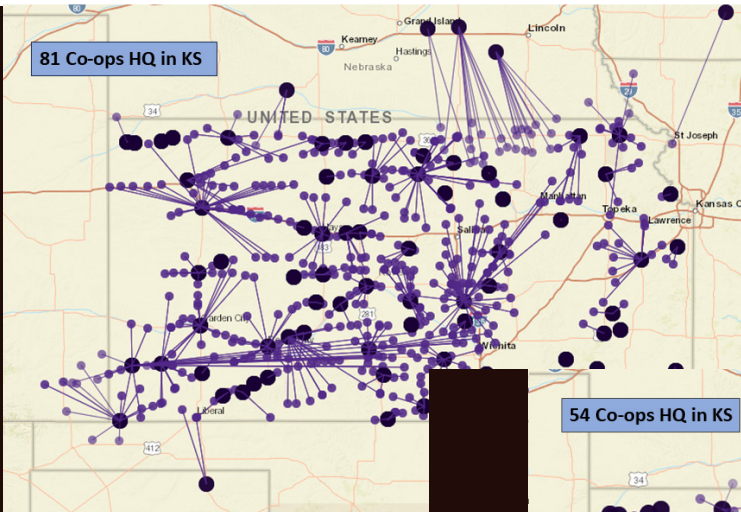
To help visualize these changes, the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center maintains an interactive online map showing cooperative headquarters, grain facilities, and their relationships across Kansas. The map illustrates how the cooperative landscape has evolved over time while highlighting the extensive network that still supports Kansas agriculture today.

The map serves as a valuable tool for producers, agribusiness professionals, students, and anyone interested in understanding the changing structure of Kansas agriculture. While the number of cooperatives may be smaller than in previous generations, their impact remains significant as they continue to invest in modern facilities, market access, and services that support farmer-members across the state.

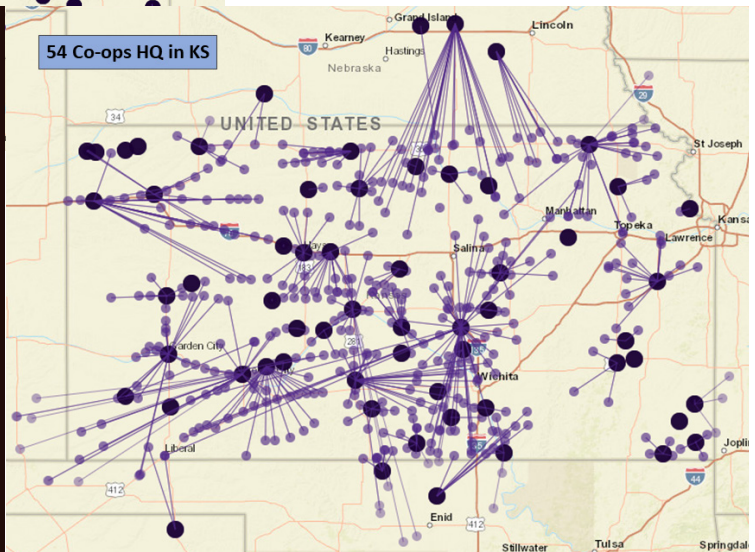


EXPLORE THE INTERACTIVE MAP AT
acc.k-state.edu/map.html

2016



2025



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From the Family Farm *to Industry Leadership*

Scott McGinn Named 2026 Agricultural Economics Distinguished Alumnus

From the Family Farm to Industry Leadership

Scott McGinn Named 2026 Agricultural Economics Distinguished Alumnus

From growing up on a family farm near Sedgwick, Kansas, to leading a global fertilizer business, Scott McGinn ('97) has built a career grounded in agriculture, relationships, continuous learning and a willingness to embrace new opportunities.

McGinn, president of Koch Fertilizer, LLC and Koch Agronomic Services, LLC, has been named the 2026 Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics Distinguished Alumnus.

For McGinn, agriculture has always been close to home. Growing up on a family farm made Kansas State University a natural choice when it came time for college.

"I've always had a passion for agriculture, which led me to Kansas State to pursue a degree in Agribusiness," McGinn said. "I earned my bachelor's degree in Agribusiness through the Department of Agricultural Economics, and that decision really set a great foundation for me."

After graduation, McGinn joined Koch in 1997. During nearly three decades with the company, he has held a variety of commercial and leadership roles across Koch Agriculture, Koch Hydrocarbon and Koch Fertilizer. He also served as chairman of the board for The Fertilizer Institute.

Today, as president of Koch Fertilizer and Koch Agronomic Services, subsidiaries of Koch Ag & Energy Solutions, McGinn is responsible for the strategic direction and growth of the company's global production and distribution assets, equity partnerships, supply and trading businesses, and specialty products business.

A typical workday, however, is difficult to define.

"Honestly, there isn't one, and that's what I enjoy about it," McGinn said. "Any given day is a mix of market and commodity dynamics, the safety and performance of

our operations, our customers and partners around the world, and most importantly our people and how we're working hard each day to help them reach their potential."

Building a Foundation at K-State

McGinn credits his Agricultural Economics education with giving him a broad understanding of how the pieces of a business work together.

"My education in the Ag Economics department taught me how markets, economics, operations and people fit together across the whole value chain," he said. "That foundation is what prepared me well for many different experiences and roles at Koch."

Whether evaluating a trading operation, production asset or specialty product line, McGinn said the ability to think economically about business decisions can be traced directly to his K-State education.

"I had so many great faculty members at K-State that helped build a strong foundation in economics and business including Dr. Bryan Schurle, Dr. Arlo Biere, and Dr. Allen Featherstone to name a few," he said.

Not all of his favorite K-State memories happened in the classroom. McGinn was a student during a transformational period for Wildcat football and fondly remembers Saturdays in Manhattan during the early and mid-1990s as the program began its remarkable turnaround.

Saying Yes to Opportunity

When McGinn reflects on the career that followed, he doesn't point to one promotion or position as the defining moment. Instead, he credits a willingness to continually learn and take on new challenges.

"Joining Koch nearly 30 years ago has been a life-changing experience, and I will forever be grateful for the opportunity," he said. "The biggest impact came from being willing to say yes to new opportunities where I could learn, grow and contribute, even when it meant stepping outside of my comfort zone or taking on unfamiliar opportunities."



Rather than following a predetermined career path, McGinn focused on opportunities where he could create value while developing his own strengths.

"That mindset, coupled with hard work and the desire to continually improve, has shaped my journey more than any single role," he said.

It's a philosophy that also influences his approach to leadership.

McGinn identifies humility, integrity and trust among the qualities he values most in today's leaders, along with good judgment and the willingness to make decisions. Just as important is a commitment to developing others and helping people reach their potential.

That focus on people carries through when McGinn discusses his own career accomplishments. Rather than pointing to an individual achievement, he credits the collective efforts of his colleagues.

"I'm proud of how our team has worked together to create value for our customers with a principled approach," he said. "Any success we've had as a business is a reflection of our collective efforts and commitment

to our values and principles."

Looking to Agriculture's Future

After nearly three decades in the fertilizer industry, McGinn remains optimistic about the future of agriculture and the opportunities awaiting today's students.

Technology, data and greater efficiency in the production and application of nutrients are creating new possibilities throughout the industry. At the same time, the fundamental challenge of producing food for a growing global population ensures that agriculture will continue to need talented people prepared to solve complex problems.

"The world needs agriculture to feed a growing population, and the people entering this field now get to help address that challenge," McGinn said.

His advice for students preparing to become those leaders begins with something that doesn't appear on a transcript: relationships.

"Invest in relationships and learning," he said. "The network you build at K-State and early in your career will matter more than almost anything on your résumé."

He also encourages students to develop a strong work ethic, remain curious and take opportunities that push them beyond what is comfortable or familiar.

"Learn to communicate clearly and operate with integrity," McGinn said. "The technical skills get you in the door, but character and communication are what carry a career."

Coming Full Circle

Being selected as the department's 2026 Distinguished Alumnus brings McGinn's journey back to where much of it began.

"It's genuinely humbling," he said. "When you look at the names on that list, being included among them is a true honor. I'm forever grateful for my time and experiences as a student at Kansas State and the foundation that I built while in the Department of Agricultural Economics."

It's a foundation he hopes today's students recognize and make the most of while they're still on campus.

"The foundation you're building at K-State will take you further than you can imagine right now," McGinn said. "Make the most of it and take care of the relationships you develop here."

ACCOUNTING TO *Count On*

KFMA launches their new agricultural accounting software, FARM

The Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA) has launched its new agricultural accounting software, FARM (Farm Accounting and Resource Management), which is now available for use.

Designed with farmers in mind, the software allows users to closely track their operation's accounting activities. Features like account reconciliation, income and expense tracking, tax preparation, and payroll make it a comprehensive tool for producers.

Development of the software began when the KFMA team saw a need for accessible, modern agricultural accounting tools.

"Our experience with several of the current accounting system offerings has been that they are either not focused on agricultural accounting or have not been maintained or updated to meet the needs of users," said Mark Dikeman, KFMA Executive Director. "In addition, for a user that just needs basic agricultural accounting, many current products have become expensive or are not intuitive to use."

KFMA aims for this software to be user-friendly and scalable for each unique farm and ranch.

"Ultimately, we hope we've developed a product that allows advanced bookkeepers the tools they need for income tax planning/preparation and farm business financial analysis, but without ignoring the needs of those who might need a more basic accounting system," said Dikeman.

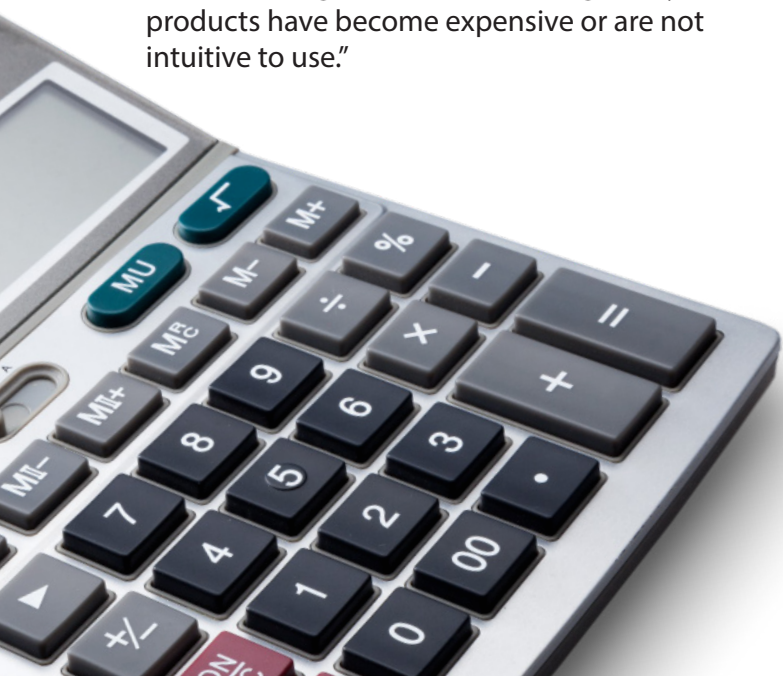
Upon initial release, FARM software supports an import of existing data from QuickBooks Desktop and FarmBooks, two of the most commonly used applications with KFMA members.

The KFMA plans to continue growing and improving the software to meet producer needs. The software is in the final stages of a payroll module development and plans to include the ability to import bank transactions and print checks soon. Future plans include modules for inventory tracking, invoicing, and bill management.



LEARN ABOUT THE SOFTWARE AT
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OR CONTACT A KFMA ECONOMIST



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Agricultural Economics Scholarship Banquet & Tailgate

Banquet – September 18, Manhattan

Please RSVP the number attending and names to Amy at ageyer@ksu.edu or 785-532-6702.

Tailgate – September 19, Manhattan

Please RSVP to Mary at mjbowen@ksu.edu or scan the QR code.



You can order discounted KSU vs Tulane football tickets at: kstatesports.venue.net/promotions/FB26F03AG

Ag Lenders Conference

September 22 – Garden City

September 23 – Manhattan

K-State's annual Agricultural Lenders Conferences are designed to provide the Kansas financial community with updates on current agricultural topics. But it's not only for lenders and bankers. Producers, landlords, crop insurance agents, and agribusiness managers also attend.

For more information, contact Rich Llewelyn at 785-532-1504 or rwl@ksu.edu.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)

October 22-23, Overland Park, Kansas

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the K-State Risk Management Center (RMC) will jointly host AgCon2026. AgCon26 focuses on derivatives market issues impacting the agriculture industry. This one-of-a-kind public forum offers a platform for end-users, merchants, producers and regulators to come together in a single location to discuss the most pressing issues of the present and the future. AgCon26 marks the fourth time the conference has been offered to the public.

For more information, contact Victoria Feldkamp, 785-532-4075 or vfeldkamp@ksu.edu.

Register online at <https://www.k-state.edu/riskmanagement/agcon.html>

Kansas Crop Insurance Workshop

October 29 – Salina

This one-day workshop will help crop insurance agents, agricultural lenders, farmers/ranchers, and other financial consultants provide better risk management information and advice to their clients or apply it to their farm or ranch.

If you are involved in the crop insurance industry, either as an agent, a producer, or an agricultural lender, you should consider attending this workshop.

For more information, contact Luke Byers at 717-491-5259 or lsbyers@ksu.edu.

Kansas Income Tax Institute

October 4-5 – Online

November 9-10 – Garden City

November 11-12 – Hays

November 23-24 – Wichita

The Department of Agricultural Economics invites you to attend the annual Kansas Income Tax Institute. The program is for tax professionals and is designed to provide up-to-date training on current tax law, regulations, and updates.

For more information, contact Luke Byers at 717-491-5259 or lsbyers@ksu.edu.

Kansas Landowner Conference

November 10-11 – Manhattan

The 4th Annual Kansas Landowner Conference is specifically tailored to folks who have agricultural land in Kansas but may not reside on the property, or even in the state of Kansas. The conference is designed to be a resource where landowners can build networks and increase their knowledge in many aspects of land management.

For more information, contact Ashlee Westerhold at ashleecw@ksu.edu or 785-532-4526.

For a full list of events and to register, visit www.agmanager.info/events.

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