

Jody S. (Wendt) Herchenbach

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I am currently a Ph.D. student and graduate assistant in the Department of Agricultural Economics within the College of Agriculture at Kansas State University. My research interests include rural economics and development, agribusiness, cooperatives, farm management, and extension models.

EDUCATION

Kansas State University, *Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics*

Dissertation (*tentative*): *Skills Gap Analysis of Farmer-Owned Cooperative Directors and Its Connection to the Agricultural Landscape*

Anticipated Graduation: August 2022

Kansas State University, *Master of Agribusiness*

May 2019

Thesis: *An Examination of the Impact of 4-H on Employability Skills*

University of Nebraska – Lincoln, *Bachelor of Science in Business Management*
(With an emphasis in Entrepreneurship)

May 2013

International College of Management – Sydney, Manly, Australia, *Study Abroad*

Spring 2012

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant, Department of Agricultural Economics

Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

August 2019-Present

- Assist professors in grading student submissions for assignments within the Master of Agribusiness program
- Develop presentation material for local conferences to help market the Master of Agribusiness program
- Co-author/edit white papers based on alumni theses to then be used by the program to disseminate the students' work
- Recruit and coordinate speakers for on-campus sessions
- Perform administrative duties to ensure that the Master of Agribusiness program continues to be a top-notch, award-winning master's education program
- Aid various professors with research studies

Adjunct Introduction to Entrepreneurship Instructor (ENTR 1050), Central Community College
Columbus, NE

January 2019-May 2019

- Drafted and recorded weekly videos/lessons for an online course with 27 students
- Developed curriculum, videos, readings, and assignments as they pertain to the course objectives

- Engaged with students regularly in online class discussions and through individual consultations as needed
- Helped students navigate the course through the online classroom portal throughout the semester on the Moodle platform
- Graded assignments and projects; provided regular feedback to students

Academic Success Center Tutor, Central Community College
Columbus, NE

October 2016-May 2019

- Tutored students in the evenings once or twice per week in the Academic Success Center on the Columbus campus. Subjects included economics, math, statistics, English/writing, sciences, public speaking, psychology, etc.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Loan Administrative Assistant, Columbus Bank & Trust
Columbus, NE

August 2018-August 2019

- Prepared loan documents for new loans and/or renewals - mainly agriculture, commercial, and consumer loans
- Assisted in collecting financial history for new or existing loan customers - provide credit analysis printouts for loan officers to aid in their credit decisions
- Examined title searches as they pertain to loan closings for both property and vehicle titles
- Completed loan closing checklists and assembled loan files
- Kept loan files up-to-date with customer information, ID's, insurance proofs, flood certificates, security documents, deeds of trust, etc.
- Collected customer loan payments
- Aided the frontline staff with teller responsibilities as needed

Extension Assistant/4-H Youth Coordinator, Nebraska Extension in Platte County
Columbus, NE

August 2014-July 2018

- Coordinated the School Enrichment program in Platte County by presenting the program offerings from our staff to 170 classroom teachers and principals through face-to-face meetings. As a result, roughly 5,500 youth were reached through our programs each year.
- Taught Agriculture Literacy, Business, Life Skills, Leadership, and Science to roughly 1,500 students in grades K-8 each year through the 4-H School Enrichment program in Platte County.
- Planned and coordinated 4-H Special Event Days that reached roughly 1,500 students in grades 2-6 each year that focused on Leadership, Healthy Living, Water and Natural Resources, Science, and Agriculture Literacy.
- Co-led the middle school team within the Youth Entrepreneurship and Business Opportunities (YEBO) Issue Team to create and implement the INVENTure Day Program, which is designed to help youth in grades 5-8 increase their knowledge of local businesses, business owners, and community opportunities and to identify potential entrepreneurial careers. Roughly 700 students from across the state were reached each year through these programming efforts.

- Orchestrated various activities and lessons covering several topics for the 4-H after school program in Platte County.
- Attended 4-H Club meetings and led a variety of activities with 4-H club members.
- Planned Discovery Days and Day Camp activities for 4-H camps during the summer months that helped youth explore their creativity and interests in other skills such as baking, sewing, engineering, and design.
- Explored new partnerships and sponsors to help carry out our 4-H program as a whole, such as raising money to offset costs for workshop/camp participants and finding volunteers and speakers for different educational events.
- Helped coordinate judges for the Platte County Fair and helped organize the 4-H static exhibits each year.
- Coordinated and managed youth, adults, and inventory with the 4-H Concession Stand at the Platte County Fair each year, which served as the only fundraiser for the Platte County 4-H Council.
- Facilitated recruitment activities for the Platte County 4-H program as a whole to prospective youth by staying involved in the local communities.
- Collaborated with other Extension professionals across Nebraska to develop new programs and curriculum and to implement such programs throughout the state.

PUBLICATIONS

Briggeman, B., O'Brien, D., **Wendt, J.** (2020). "Economic Assessment of Kansas Agricultural and Rural Industries and Investments." College of Agriculture, Kansas State University. Report.

Mbamba, A., Amanor-Boadu, V., **Wendt, J.** (2020). "Consumer Color Preferences and the Economics of Bean Consumption in Malawi." Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Stutzman, A., Amanor-Boadu, V., **Wendt, J.** (2020). "A Meta-Analysis of Willingness to Pay for Local Beef." Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Trattles, S., Harris, K., **Wendt, J.** (2020). "Current State of Economics of Southwest Michigan Blueberries." Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Hoffman, L., Shroeder, T., **Wendt, J.** (2019) "Hedonic Pricing Models for Red Angus Bulls." Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Wendt, J. (2017). Platte County School Enrichment Program Celebrates 40 Years. Norfolk, Nebraska: Norfolk Daily News: 4-H Special Edition 2017.

Wendt, J. (2016). Entrepreneurs Creatively Solving Problems in 4-H. Lincoln, Nebraska: Spotlight on 4-H. Nebraska Extension 4-H Newsletter.
<http://extension.unl.edu/statewide/platte/Newsletters/Spotlight%20May2016.pdf>.

Wendt, J. (2016). Area Youth Explore Futures as Entrepreneurs. Norfolk, Nebraska: Norfolk Daily News: 4-H Special Edition 2015.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Wendt, J., Briggeman, B., van Rooyen, J. (2020). “Cooperative Growth in the Agri-food Value Chain: The Case of SSK Cooperative.” Potential journal article, potential case study competition material.

Wendt, J., Leatherman, J. (2020). “An Improved Assessment of Agriculture’s Economic Contribution to the Kansas Economy.” Report, potential journal article.

Brainard, D., Amanor-Boadu, V., **Wendt, J.** (2020). “Veterinary Pain Management: Mitigating the Opioid Epidemic.” Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Wilson, L., Amanor-Boadu, V., **Wendt, J.** (2020). “An Economic Feasibility Analysis of Pulsed Electromagnetic Field Therapy as an Equine Therapeutic Modality.” Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

Avedian, N., Shanoyan, A., **Wendt, J.** (2020). “Fresh Produce Retail – Analysis of Vertical Coordination and Procurement Models in the Central California Lemon Supply Chain.” Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University. White paper.

PRESENTATIONS

Wendt, J., Briggeman, B., Bergtold, J. (Presenter and Co-Author), Kansas State University Graduate Student Council Research and the State, Poster Presentations, “Valuing Trust: An Application to Agricultural Lending.” (October 27, 2021). (~50 attendees)

Wendt, J. (Guest Lecturer), AGEC 120: Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness. “Demand.” (October 13, 2021). (130 attendees).

Wendt, J. (Guest Lecturer), AGEC 115: Decision Tools for Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness. “Goal Seek.” (March 26, 2020). (25 attendees).

Wendt, J., Briggeman, B., Von Rooyen, J. (Presenter and Co-Author), International Food & Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) Annual Conference, Online Symposium, “Cooperative Growth in the Agri-food Value Chain: The Case of SSK Cooperative”, published in proceedings. (September 23, 2020). (30 attendees).

Wendt, J., Leatherman, J. (Presenter & Co-Author), Risk and Profit Conference, Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics, Manhattan, KS, “An Improved Assessment of Agriculture’s Contribution to the Kansas Economy”, published in proceedings. (August 12, 2020). (90 attendees).

Wendt, J., Burda, M. (Presenter & Co-Author), National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA) National Conference, National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA),

Indianapolis, IN, “Inventure Day: An Entrepreneurial Adventure for Middle School Youth”, published in proceedings. (November 13, 2017). (30 attendees).

Wendt, J., Columbus Morning Rotary Weekly Meeting, Columbus Morning Rotary, Columbus, NE, “The Platte County 4-H Program”. (July 13, 2017). (15 attendees).

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED

Ralph K. Morris Foundation. *Elroy Webster Cooperative Studies Scholarship*, (2020) \$2,500.

Nebraska Extension, *Nebraska Innovation Grant*, (2018) \$9,850, **Wendt, J.**, Kreikemeier, J., Hansen, J., Wickham, T.

STUDENT EVALUATION RESULTS

Selected Results from Student Evaluations from Central Community College

Course	Semester	Overall Instructor Rating	Overall Course Rating
ENTR 1050 Intro to Entrepreneurship	Spring 2019	3.6/4.0	3.7/4.0

Written Feedback

“Intro to entrepreneurship was not what I was expecting. I did not expect our assignments, our readings, our papers, to be so detailed. At first, I signed up for the class because I was thinking that it would be an easy way to boost my GPA. However, it did not end that way. It is weird, because in the end, I am proud that this was not the case.”

“Your class was very well orchestrated. I mean this because online classes are not always easy to interpret. Instructions, the things we learned, the spacing of assignments. It was all set up nicely for me as a college student to prepare for, and complete. Your lectures helped to reiterate any indecisiveness or doubt in what I was to accomplish. I thank you for that, and it makes this online class a success, opposed to some others I have taken in the past.”

“I learned that to be an entrepreneur, you really must be passionate in what it is you want to do. You cannot go in half way, because part of being a leader is being dedicated and showing what it means to desire success. Your class has opened my eyes in several ways, one being that I could open a business in the future. Opportunities lie everywhere around us, and it is up to me to make the right choice as to how I continue to expand my career outlook.”

“In conclusion, your class tested my creative abilities, my limits, and my comfort zone. Your class forced me to apply myself in ways I have never done before, and it was an experience worth having. I do not regret signing up for the class, and do not regret finishing it. I have learned a lot about myself, and that is what college is for right? We must learn more about ourselves to create our own path. A path we would take again 40 years from now. So, thank

you.”

“This class gave me more confidence because I always thought, oh I’m not creative, I will never be able to get through even the first assignment. However, you were always there to encourage me and to help me if I had any questions. So, I was able to come up with a business idea, a vision and mission statement, all the way to the final business plan. I was able to capture a strong image of what it’s like if I were to start my own business.”

HONORS/AWARDS

Ralph K. Morris Elroy Webster Cooperative Studies Scholarship (2020)
Achievement in Service Award – National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (2018)
Award of Excellence Creative Team Program – INVENTURE Day – State Winner – Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (2018)
Denise Miller Innovator Award – State Winner – National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (2017)
Educational Materials Team Award – Regional and National Winner – National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (2017)
Citizenship in 4-H Youth Development Award – Regional Winner – National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (2016)
Excellence in Healthy Living Programming Award – State Winner – Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (2016)
Chancellor’s Scholar – University of Nebraska – Lincoln (2013)
Dean’s List – University of Nebraska – Lincoln (2009-2013)
Dean’s List – International College of Management – Sydney (2012)

ORGANIZATIONS/SERVICE

International Food & Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) member
Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) member
Phi Kappa Phi life member
Graduate Student Council (GSC) at Kansas State University:

- Member (September 2019-May 2020)
- Awards and Recognition Committee Co-Chair (September 2019-January 2020)

Graduate Students in Agricultural Economics (GSAE) at Kansas State University:

- Member (August 2019-Present)
- Representative (November 2019-November 2020)

Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (NCEA):

- Member (2014-2018)
- Audit and Budget Committee Chair (2016-2017)
- 4-H Section Member (2014-2018)
- 4-H Section Policy Committee Member (2014-2018), Secretary (2015-2016), Chair-Elect (2016-2017), Chair (2017-2018)
- 4-H Section Jr. Director (2016-2017)
- 4-H Section Sr. Director (2017-2018)

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA):

- Member (2014-2018)
- Citizenship Task Force Member (2016-2017)

Nebraska Extension 4-H and Youth Development, Agricultural Literacy Signature Outcome Area Committee Member (2014-2016)

University of Nebraska – Lincoln Nebraska Alumni Association Young Alumni Academy Member (2016-2017)

Volunteer: First Lutheran Church Thursday Suppers, Manhattan KS (November 2020-present)

Volunteer: First Lutheran Church Youth Group leader, Manhattan KS (October 2019-August 2020)

Volunteer: Kiwanis Club (October 2014-October 2018)

Volunteer: Rotary Club (April 2017-August 2019)

Volunteer: Habitat for Humanity Faith Relations Committee member (2016-2018)

Volunteer: TeamMates Mentoring Program (January 2010-May 2013, October 2015-May 2019)

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Kansas Cooperative Council Director Development Program (2021)

Arthur Capper Cooperative Center (ACCC) Leadership Symposium (2021)

National Farmers Union College Conference on Cooperatives (2021 – online)

International Food & Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) Annual Conference (2020 – online)

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Conference (2020 – online)

Risk and Profit Conference (2019, 2020, 2021) – Kansas State University

Women Managing the Farm Conference (2020) – volunteer

Kansas Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Annual Conference (2020) – hosted MAB promotional booth

Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (2019) – Kansas State University – attendee and volunteer

4-H Citizenship Washington Focus (2018)

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents

- Portland, Oregon, 2015
- New Orleans, Louisiana, 2016
- Indianapolis, Indiana, 2017

Real Colors Trained Facilitator (2017)

National 4-H Congress (2017)

5 Choices Workshop (2017)

7 Habits of Highly Effective People (2016)

Virtual Crowdlearning Leadership Development Program sponsored by the Rural Futures Institute (2016)