

RAYMOND JOSEPH THOMAS

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EDUCATION

Kansas State University

Doctor of Philosophy in Agriculture Economics

Current

Research Topic Area: Production & Natural Resource Economics

Major Professor: Dr. Timothy Dalton

Kansas State University

Master of Science in Agriculture Economics

2020

Thesis: Impacts of Market Shocks on Supply Chain Responsiveness in the Wheat Industry

Major Professor: Dr. Keith D. Harris

Prairie View A&M University

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

2018

Concentration: Agribusiness

Cum Laude Honors

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Kansas State College of Agriculture: Diversity Programs Office (DPO)

Graduate Student Assistant

2019 - 2021

Work as a Graduate Student Mentor for the Kansas State Project Impact Program, assist undergraduate students with academic programs by helping with navigating class schedules and enrolment, organizing and coordinating DPO summer programs, conducting literature reviews and writing journal articles for DPO research

Winfield United Marketing

Professional Products Group Marketing Intern

Summer 2019

Developed and implemented pricing models in order to aid the business unit in pricing products effectively, compiled bidding documents from regional managers into a database for price reference, conducted market research on competitor prices, ecommerce presence, and offered products (fertilizers, pesticides, etc.)

Prairie View College of Agriculture Marketing Department

Jr. Media Relations Specialist

2017 – 2018

Communicated the mission and goals of the college with alumni, congressional contacts, and other groups of interest, recruited prospective students provide opportunities for current students, gather resources or support for the department, expanded department reach in the community through extension programs, photography, newsletters, social media, and email

Agworkers Insurance**University Student Representative****2015 – 2018**

Served as the student representative for an insurance company that specializes in servicing employees in agriculture, planned meetings with student led organizations to expand target markets and reach new demographics, set up and worked booths at school and agriculture events in order to garner interest from students, faculty, & staff

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)**Undergraduate Statistics Intern****2015 – 2018**

Assisted in conducting surveys and statistical analysis for agricultural production and supplies of food and fiber, prepared reports related to price of good, farm labor, wages, weather, and other aspects of the farm industry, assisted in organizing and hosting pre-survey planning events and workshops for survey teams and enumerators

RELATED SKILLS**Statistical Data Analysis Tools Experience:**

Stata, R-Studio, GAMS

Microsoft Tools Experience:

Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc.

Survey Development Tools Experience:

Qualtrics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Kansas State University

Agriculture Economics Decision Tools**Fall 2022**

Course focused on teaching useful applications of tools found in Microsoft Excel to first and second year students in preparation for higher level agriculture economic courses

Kansas State University

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Ben Schwab - Principles of Agriculture Economics**Fall 2020**

Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

Kansas State University

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Keith D. Harris - Principles of Agribusiness Management**Fall 2018, 2019**

Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, met with students upon request, and graded all written work, including final exam papers.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERINCE**Prairie View A&M University Costa Rica Study Abroad****Spring 2018**

Studied land resources economics, land use regulation, tourism as a source of revenue in agriculture, sustainable production practices, and international trade deals in Costa Rica

Prairie View A&M University Central Mexico Study Abroad**Spring 2017**

Studied the processing of meat and dairy products, sanitation practices and regulation, and analyzed trade agreements while evaluating international relations at institutes in Central Mexico

Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M Namibia Study Abroad**Summer 2016**

Studied cultural pluralism and impactful photo journalism techniques as they relate to agricultural production while traveling through five countries in Africa

AWARDS

Nolan and Jean M. McKenzie Graduate Student Fellowship	2022
American Royal Scholarship	2020
George Washington Carver Spirit of Innovation Award	2019
National MANRRS Conference Division II Graduate Research Poster Contest 1st Place	2019
Farm Credit MANRRS VIP Scholarship	2017
Gilman International Study Abroad Scholarship	2016
Prairie View A&M University Scholarly Male Award	2016
USDA 1890 Land Grant University Honors Scholarship Recipient	2014
Eagle Scout – BSA Troop 56, Atascocita, TX	2012

ORGANIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Related Sciences (MANRRS)
 Graduate Students of Agriculture Economics Association (GSAE)
 Graduate Student Council (GSC)
 Kansas State Center for Risk Management Education & Research Fellow (CMER)
 National Science Foundation R3 NRT Scholar

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Social Chair (Graduate Students in Agriculture Economics) **Spring 2022**

Duties: Planning and organizing department/organization social, fundraising, and extracurricular events, help to facilitate travel to off campus events, help facilitate outreach within the department and college

Region 3 & 4 Graduate Student Vice President (MANRRS) **Fall 2019**

Duties: Organizing the Multicultural Student Committee in the KSU MANRRS Chapter, applying for university funding for conference trips, upholding the duties of the president if ever they are absent

Diversity Advocate (GSC) **Spring 2020**

Duties: Communication with multicultural student organizations about graduate school affairs, representing the multicultural student population at council meetings, raising awareness about issues and opportunities related to diversity & inclusion on campus

Graduate Student Vice President (MANRRS) **Present**

Duties: Organizing the Multicultural Student Committee in the KSU MANRRS Chapter, applying for university funding for conference trips, upholding the duties of the president if ever they are absent

PROGRAM/CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Northeastern Agriculture & Resource Economics Association Scholar	2022
NASDA Winter Policy Conference Diversity Summit Scholar	2020
Kansas State Research and Extension Fellow	2018
USDA Student Diversity Outreach Program Scholar	2018

GRANTS

2022 Kansas State University Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences Grant **2022**
Environmental Defense Fund Soil Carbon Grant **2022**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Analyzing the Adoption & Intensity of Carbon Farming Practices in the U.S." (Poster)
International Food & Agribusiness Management Conference **2022**

"Impact of Confined Animal Feeding Operations on Agricultural Land Values in Kansas"
Westerns Agriculture Economics Association Conference **2022**

PUBLICATIONS

"Assessing The Success of The 2020 Kansas State Research and Extension Summer Research Program: A Virtual Research Experience"
Professional Agricultural Workers Journal **2021**