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## From the desk of Allen Featherstone

As the Fall semester transitions to 2019 and the beginning of the spring semester, I congratulate all of our December graduates. We wish you success as you move into the next stage of life. Please stay in touch with the Department as you move forward. We desire to keep our alumni involved in many different ways within the Department. In this newsletter, you can read all about what is happening in the Department.

Change continues within Waters Hall. One of our faculty members, Dr. Art Barnaby, will retire at the end of January. He has contributed to our research and extension services for more than 40 years in the Department. We appreciate his many years of outstanding service and wish him well with his retirement.

Our faculty continues to receive recognition for their outstanding contributions this semester. Dr. Jason Bergtold received a teaching award from the United States Department of Agriculture and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities. Dr. Jisang Yu published his research on the theoretical impacts of crop insurance subsidies on crop choice. Secretary Dan Glickman received an honorary doctorate from Kansas State University for his policy contributions to the state and nation.

One of our star students, Adam Holtorf, gives us a peek at what it takes to excel on the football field and agricultural finance.

We will update you on the newest class of Center for Risk Management Education and Research fellows and look at an upcoming Master of Agribusiness (MAB) opportunity. Finally, we examine an innovative technology making headway into the agricultural industry with a recent workshop on Blockchain conducted by our MAB program.

We would love to hear about your career and family developments, so we can share them in upcoming issues of our quarterly newsletter. Please email Tom Reust at [tomreust@ksu.edu](mailto:tomreust@ksu.edu) with the information you would like to share with your fellow alumni.

### *Go Cats!*

Dr. Allen Featherstone  
[afeather@ksu.edu](mailto:afeather@ksu.edu)  
Department Head, Professor,  
Master of Agribusiness Program Director

## Pursuing Excellence in His Field



*Adam Holtorf: Photo Courtesy of Kansas State University Athletics and the Department of Agricultural Economics*

At 6'4" and nearly 300 lbs., Adam Holtorf casts an imposing figure on the athletic field as the starting center for the Kansas State Wildcats. However, when you meet him in person you find a polite and generous young man who is excelling in his academics as a Department of Agricultural Economics Agribusiness major, as well as the on the football field.

In 2018, Holtorf was given the Big 12 conference's highest academic honor, the Dr. Gerald Lage Academic Achievement Award. Just to be nominated, athletes must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.80. Adam was also on the 2018 Rimington Trophy watch list for the top college center in the nation.

Holtorf hails from Seward, Nebraska. Growing up, Holtorf worked on his grandparent's farm driving the family tractors and working the land. His interest in agriculture led to joining the Future Farmers of America program, and serving as an officer for two years, before finally landing in the agribusiness program in the Department of Agricultural Economics. A program that seemed like an easy decision from the very beginning.

"I was always good at numbers, and so the program was a great fit," says Holtorf.

Holtorf credits support from the "Family" he found in

his peers within the agribusiness program as being key to his success. The academic support from the football program, and early establishment of set hours of study helped manage the workload of a busy college career. He says the amount of time needed for both his football and scholastics endeavors was a bit of a surprise for him.

"Coming out of high school it was a big shock, and a challenge at first," says Holtorf.

Time constraints from the athletic program meant finding ways to work around a schedule that did not allow Adam to take classes after 2:20 p.m. in

the regular season. Adam thanks his advisor, Dr. Christine Wilson, for her help with managing his busy athletic schedule and classes on campus.

"Dr. Wilson always helped me find a way to make everything work," explains Holtorf.

Holtorf returns for the Wildcats next fall for his final season. He hopes to become an agricultural loan officer after graduation and continue his support of the agricultural community.



# Internships



**Clara Wicoff:** Wicoff is a junior in Agribusiness and worked with Senator Pat Robert's office on the new Farm Bill in Washington D.C. Clara assisted with legislative research alongside senate majority staffers and provided summary briefs to senior policy makers. The internship totaled 9 weeks from May 31<sup>st</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

"I was able to interact with the professional staff, and network with others who had the same interests in agriculture," says Wicoff.



**Ryan Steffen:** Steffen is a senior in Agribusiness and interned with Tyson Foods. Steffen conducted phone sales of protein products and provided customer service to clients concerning distribution. Ryan was also involved in a pioneering project at Tyson Foods concerning a new meal kit initiative at the company. Steffen believes his time with Tyson provided insight into his future career choices.

"Working with an entirely new project was a very exciting opportunity," says Steffen.



**Claire Zahm:** Zahm interned with Zeeland Farm Services as a Grain Merchandiser. In fact, she was their first intern, and helped shape their internship program while working alongside mentors within the company. While working at ZFS, Claire was able to see operations all along the supply chain from producer to major companies involved in food production.

"As the first intern, I was able to mold a program at Zeeland Farm Services. It was also nearby my home," says Zahm.



**Kaylyn Turland:** Kaylyn interned at GreenStone Farm Credit Services as a Crop Insurance Intern. Turland says she knew it was a competitive internship program and applied to over 20 positions before landing her spot as a crop insurance intern. Turland worked in customer service, and shadowed agents as they processed claims and covered acreage reporting. Turland was able to be on the ground floor to research a new dairy revenue protection plan while at the company.

"Follow-up is important to land competitive internships like GreenStone Farm Credit Services. I stayed with my application, and got the position," says Turland.



# Bergtold APLU Award



*Dr. Jason Bergtold*

A Kansas State University Department of Agricultural Economics professor, received a national award from the United States Department of Agriculture and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU). Dr. Jason Bergtold received the APLU Excellence in Teaching Award on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Annual Meeting of the APLU in New Orleans.

The award includes a \$2,000 gift to the Department of Agricultural Economics for use in strengthening instructional programs. Founded in 1887, the APLU's mission is to support research, policy and advocacy organizations across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Dr. Bergtold says the award is an honor, "I am humbled at receiving this teaching award. I have a passion for teaching and strive to engage students at Kansas State University in the learning process by making them active participants and learners. My goal in teaching is to help students not only learn the material, but learn how think critically about economic issues and be able to apply the material being learned in their own lives, education and future careers. This award will help to further that process at Kansas State University."

Bergtold teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses and has been with the department for more than 10 years. He believes in engaging the students directly and providing a personalized course of action to ensure student success. His research interests include production economics, environmental economics, energy economics and applied econometrics. Dr. Bergtold gave the commencement speech for the College of Agriculture in early December.

Department Head, Dr. Allen Featherstone, says he considers Dr. Bergtold an excellent example of the department's focus on quality education. "Dr. Bergtold is a great example of the quality of faculty members we house within our department. Our students are taught by the very best minds in agricultural economics. In addition, our faculty are widely recognized for their teaching abilities."

This standard of excellence in the the Department of Agricultural Economics has created a 98% job placement rate and an average starting salary of \$48,500 for undergraduate students. The department is ranked fourth in agricultural economics by the National Research Council.



# Dan Glickman Receives Honorary Doctorate



*Dan Glickman*

Dan Glickman, the former U.S. secretary of agriculture and longtime congressman from Kansas, received an **honorary doctorate** from Kansas State University. Glickman is an adjunct faculty member for the Department of Agricultural Economics.

The awarding of the honorary doctorate was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents at its September 20th meeting and is the highest honor Kansas State University can give. Glickman was presented with the honor at the Graduate School's fall commencement ceremony.

Glickman was nominated for the recognition by several current and former Kansas State University administrators and faculty members, as well as several distinguished colleagues, including Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas; Peter McPherson, president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities; and Dorothy Reddel Caldwell, retired deputy administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

"Few individuals can match Glickman's distinguished record of service in Kansas, throughout the nation and the world, particularly on issues involving food and agriculture, and hunger prevention and food secure communities," said Charles Taber, University Provost and Executive Vice President. "Through this work, he has helped champion and advance K-State's longstanding work with global food systems. We are truly pleased to present him with the university's highest honor."

Glickman represented Kansas' 4th Congressional District from 1977-1995. During that time, he was a member of the House Agriculture Committee, including six years as chair of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over federal farm policy issues. He also was an active member of the House Judiciary Committee, chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and was a leading congressional expert on general aviation policy.

In 1995 Glickman was appointed Secretary of Agriculture by President Bill Clinton and served in the post until 2001. As secretary, he administered farm and conservation programs; modernized food safety regulations; and forged international trade agreements to expand U.S. markets.

Glickman earned a bachelor's in history from the University of Michigan and a law degree from the George Washington University Law School. He served as a trial attorney for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 1969 - 1970, and then as a partner in the Wichita law firm Sargent, Klenda and Glickman from 1970 - 1977. He also was President of the Wichita School Board in 1976.

Since leaving his cabinet post, Glickman has remained active in several organizations involved with agriculture, public health and more. He is a Senior Fellow at the Council on American Politics, a part of the Graduate School of Political Management at George Washington University. In addition, he is a Senior Fellow at the Bipartisan Policy Center, focusing on public health, national security and economic policy issues. He is Executive Director of the Aspen Institute Congressional Program and Senior Fellow at the Center on Communication Leadership and Policy at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism. Furthermore, he is member of the Council on

# Dan Glickman Receives Honorary Doctorate

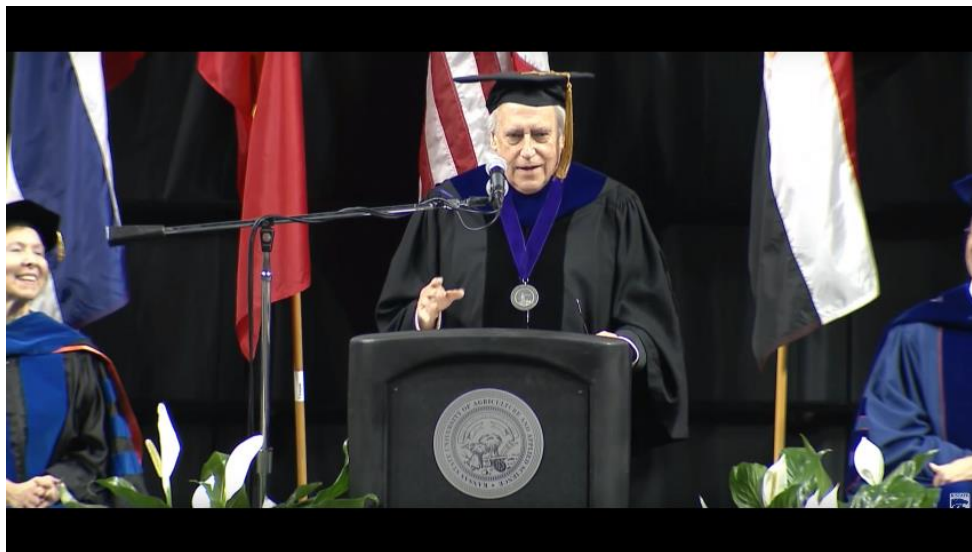
Foreign Relations and Chicago Mercantile Exchange; Chair of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition at the Center for U.S. Global Engagement; and a member of the board of trustees of the National 4-H Council.

Visiting with the Department of Agricultural Economics faculty and students, Glickman credited much of his public success to meeting Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh in the late 1970s. "I would be nothing without Dr. Flinchbaugh." Glickman relied heavily on the Department of Agricultural Economics for education and work on ag policy for the betterment of his constituents and the nation.



*Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, Dan Glickman, and Dr. Art Barnaby*

Glickman shared anecdotes from his decades of public and private service, and shared insights with students and faculty members concerning global politics and agribusiness. Glickman said he believes the Department of Agricultural Economics' work is more important than ever. "I want you to know that your efforts and research are so very vital to the future of not only our country, but for civilization. I want everyone to understand that when we talk about agriculture it is really talking about our food sources, and it is so very vital to all of us."



*Glickman Speaks at Graduate School Commencement*

# Jisang Yu: Crop Insurance Subsidies Impact



Dr. Jisang Yu

Dr. Jisang Yu published a new paper on the effects of subsidized crop insurance on crop choices.

The study, co-authored with Daniel Sumner from the University of California-Davis, uses a theoretical approach to study the change in farm investments due to the reduced risks provided by those subsidies.

“We found that the insurance subsidies have a much bigger impact on crop choice for producers than input subsidies and price support,” says Yu. “For instance, when we compared vouchers for fertilizer for a certain crop versus a subsidy for the insurance for the crop we see a bigger impact on that decision to plant the crop from the subsidized insurance portion.”

The study modeled the impacts of many of these input choices and other farm investments on “optimal farm portfolios” under different crop insurance market environments. The research used simplified farms having two crops and no other diversified income. There was a “safe” crop with steady returns and a “risky” crop with variable returns available on the operation. Models were then constructed to examine the choices these farms made within the theoretical framework. The effects of the insurance subsidy (or lack thereof) were then separated into a direct profit effect and indirect coverage effect.

The research finds that dollar for dollar, crop insurance subsidies have a larger impact than input subsidies and price support initiatives. Yu notes this study’s results can be applied to national and global policies due to the theoretical underpinnings of the research. This study suggests that policy makers and international development projects would benefit from including these findings into the decision for new policy and development planning.

The study is titled “Effects of Subsidized Crop Insurance on Crop Choices” and was published in *Agricultural Economics*, a journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.



Photograph by Sarah Boline



# Center for Risk Management and Research Selects New Student Fellows

The Kansas State University Center for Risk Management Education and Research, or CRMER, has selected its seventh class of student fellows. The center brings together students, faculty and industry to advance risk management skills and knowledge. Forty-three students were selected from a competitive pool of applicants to participate in the risk management student fellowship.

Michaela Pingel, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, Beloit; Anthony Edwards, agribusiness, Blue Rapids; Madison Tischhauser, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering; Council Grove; Sadie Polson, marketing, Frankfort; and Margaret Roth, economics, and Reagan Swank, finance, both from Garden City.

Reba Kreider, food science and industry, Horton; Clara Wicoff, agricultural economics and global food systems leadership, Iola; and Justin Varney, finance, Leavenworth; Amanda Buckwalter, business administration, Manhattan; Taylor Nikkel, agricultural economics, Maple Hill; Grace Luebcke, animal sciences, pre-veterinary medicine, Marysville; Reece Leonard, agricultural economics, McDonald; Kaitlyn Dinges, agricultural economics, Ness City; Noah Scrimsher, agribusiness, Oskaloosa; Julia Maddock, agricultural economics, Paola; Cody Renfro, finance, Silver Lake; Ira Kullot, agribusiness, Syracuse; Kyle Peter, accounting and finance, and Karaline Schreiner, marketing, both from Topeka; and Rylie Evenson, accounting and finance, and Katie Gann, finance, both from Wichita.

From Greater Kansas City: Jenna Goetzmann, agricultural business and global food systems leadership, Gardner; Anna Christenson, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, and Nathan Schmidt, finance, both from Lenexa; Nicole Becker, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, Laila Carter, food science, Sai Marre, finance, Katie Stachowiak, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, Bret Swanson, marketing, and Isaac Romig, milling science and management, all from Overland Park; and Avery Bolar, finance, Prairie Village.

From out of state:

Colorado: Jansen Penny, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering, Burlington; Braden Dow, finance, Castle Rock; and Elena Brookover, agricultural economics, Parker.

Illinois: Courtney Byrne, human resource management.

Missouri: Johnny Weidmaier, chemical engineering, Holt; and Leah Smith, business administration, Parkville.

Luke Gnad, agricultural economics, West Point, Nebraska.

International Students: Gabe Blair Fontinelle, agricultural economics, Brazil; Haobin Lin, agribusiness, China; David Leiva, business administration-data analytics, Honduras; and Dongam Jeong, chemical engineering, South Korea.

"The center welcomes the largest group of student fellows in program history into the CRMER," said Ted Schroeder, director of the center and professor in the department of agricultural economics.

**KANSAS STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

**Center for Risk Management  
Education and Research**



# Master of Agribusiness Alaska Ag Tour



Join the K-State Master of Agribusiness program and Kansas Farm Bureau for an interior farm and ag tour of Alaska September 1-10, 2019.

Enjoy the natural beauty of the Alaskan interior with stops in Anchorage, Kenai Fjords National Park, Wasilla, Denali National Park and Fairbanks. While there, we'll visit the Alaskan state fair and learn about unique Alaskan agriculture including Birch syrup and Alaskan Musk Ox.

Registration may be up to \$4,200 per person for double occupancy and \$5,500 for single. Airfare and incidentals are not included in the registration. We are offering a discount to individuals and families that have traveled with MAB and/or Kansas Farm Bureau previously.

This trip has limited space and will sell out. To ensure your spot, you can register and pay your \$500/person deposit.

Previous international trips hosted by the Master of Agribusiness program have been to South America, Russia, Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand, and Europe. Travelers get a mix of cultural sightseeing and agriculture, while building relationships with members of the group.

More information about the trip can be found at <http://mab.k-state.edu/internationaltours/alaska2019.html> or by contacting Mary Bowen at 785-532-4435, [mjbowen@ksu.edu](mailto:mjbowen@ksu.edu).



# Dr. G.A. “Art” Barnaby Jr. Retires



Dr. G.A. "Art" Barnaby Jr.

Dr. Art Barnaby has announced his retirement effective January 2019 after over 40 years of outstanding service in extension and research for the Department of Agricultural Economics. Barnaby received his bachelor of science degree from Fort Hays State in 1973, his master of science from New Mexico University in 1976, and his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in 1981.

Barnaby's research focus was on crop insurance and farm management. He was instrumental in developing modern crop insurance systems and providing research-based support to policy and farm management impacting the global markets. Dr. Barnaby led a team conducting educational seminars on the Farm Bill. He has testified to Congress on farm policy, periodically.

Internationally, Barnaby was involved with an USAID project to set up new computer systems in Botswana, participated in crop insurance discussions in Brazil, presented research at the Pluriagri/Farm conference in Paris, and presented at the Biennial Asia Pacific Ag Insurance and Reinsurance Conference in Bangkok.

Barnaby served in the Navy from 1967-1971 as Petty Officer In Charge (POIC) for the 13<sup>th</sup> Dental Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Air Wing in El Toro, California.

Barnaby's awards include: the 2009 National Excellence in Extension Award - Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, *"7 Economists, Bankers Who Challenged the Status Quo"* by Top Producer Editors for *Farm Journal Magazine*, Western Agricultural Economics Association's Prestigious Extension Project Award For the OSU-KSU 2014 Farm Bill Decision Tool and Educational Program, K-State Research and Extension Team Award for Farm Bill Education, and the K-State Research and Extension Outstanding Mentor Award.

Dr. Barnaby says his plan for retirement is to drive his tractor on his hobby farm and continue to champion initiatives empowering producers and free markets.



# 2018 Scholarship Banquet

The Department of Agricultural Economics awarded over \$200,000 in undergraduate student scholarships at the 2018 Department of Agricultural Economics Scholarship and Awards Banquet. Scholarships are given to incoming freshmen, transfer students and continuing students in the department. Scholarships exist for students demonstrating strong academic excellence, leadership, community service and other criteria as determined by donors. The event hosted family, faculty, alumni and donors to honor the scholarship awardees. The department thanks the donors for the gifts that made these scholarships possible.

The awardees sorted by state: (*Hometown: Name of Awardee and Awarded Scholarship Name*)

## Kansas

- Abilene: Natalie Harris received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Athol: Jayden Meyer received the Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship.
- Berryton: Jarrett Pitman received the Hosea S. Harkness Agricultural Economics Scholarship.
- Buhler: Bailey Peterson received the Orlen Grunewald Agricultural Economics Scholarship.
- Cassoday: Jordan and Joseph Reinert received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Cedar Point: Jake Wessel received the American Ag Credit Scholarship and the Kansas Ag Bankers Scholarship.
- Cimarron: Andrea Bryant received the CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarship, and Hunter Dewey received the Thomas G. Hobbs Memorial Scholarship and the Duane and Pauline Murphy Scholarship.
- Clyde: Eli Ohlde received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Colby: Jenna Crampton received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Colwich: Riley Eck received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Concordia: Jennifer Boley received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Dexter: Thomas Parsons received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Dodge City: Conner McCollum received the Charles and Lois Nauheim Ag Econ Scholarship.
- Eudora: Lauren Gabriel received the Cleo Harvey Kuhn Scholarship.
- Fairview: Mikayla Deters received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Fredonia: Sterling Stepp received the Tim Lim Undergraduate Scholarship.
- Freeport: Trace Adams received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Ft. Scott: Anthony Tirri received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Garden City: Jessie Johannes received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Gardner: Jenna Goetzmann received the CHS Foundation Scholarship and the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Girard: Sydney Gottlob received the Bill Hanson Crop Insurance Scholarship.
- Great Bend: Sarah Niederee received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Hiawatha: Bryn Swearingen received the Joseph Lieber Memorial Coop Scholarship.
- Holton: Dean Klahr received the CHS Foundation Scholarship and the Duane and Pauline Murphy Scholarship, Shane Torrey received the Birkbeck Family Scholarship, and Karl Wilhelm received the Birkbeck Family Scholarship.
- Home: Megan Hill received the Raymond J and Mary Claire Doll Scholarship.
- Hutchinson: Jacob Grinstead received the American Ag Credit Scholarship, and Trevor Herman received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Iola: Clara Wicoff received the Leonard W Schruben Agricultural Scholarship and the W. Dan and Lynn Weaver Scholarship.



# 2018 Scholarship Banquet

- Johnson: Reilly Erskin received the American Ag Credit Scholarship.
- Junction City: Jessica Heiman received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Kingman: Allison Deweese received the Triangle Insurance Scholarship.
- Kinsley: Trevor Tyree received the Agricultural Economics Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship.
- Linn: Kaitlin Ohlde received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Longford: Lane Nichols received the W.L. (Bill) Webber Memorial Scholarship.
- Louisburg: Ella Katzer received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship, and Kaitlyn Urban received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Madison: Kinsey Harlan received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Manhattan: Bao Chu received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship, and Andrea Miller received the Stanley G. Wendland Memorial Scholarship.
- Maple Hill: Reed Sage received the CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarship.
- Marion : Justin Bina received the Charles and Lois Nauheim Agricultural Economics Scholarship.
- Marysville: Coleman Forst received the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship.
- McDonald: Reece Leonard received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship and Thomas G. Hobbs Memorial Scholarship.
- Meade: Jacqueline Clawson received the CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarship, and Blake Reimer received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship .
- Morrowville: Andrew Tiemeyer received the Aaron Patrick Morrison Scholarship.
- Norwich: Emily Wright received the Dan and Beth Bird Scholarship Agricultural Economics Scholarship.
- Onaga: Mitchell Duer received the Stanley G. Wendland Memorial Scholarship, and Shay Duer received the Dave Woolfolk Scholarship.
- Oskaloosa: Noah Scrimsher received the Birkbeck Family Scholarship.
- Ozawkie: Matthew Hamon received the Matthew Kent Stamper Memorial Scholarship.
- Paola: Julia Maddock received the Kansas Ag Bankers Scholarship and the Koch Discovery K-State Scholarship.
- Paxico: Alicia Flach received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Phillipsburg: Suzanne Huntley received the CHS Foundation Scholarship and the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Pratt: Ciara Hodgkinson received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship, and Adison Smith received J. Adair Hodges Memorial Scholarship.
- Salina: Dakota Came received the Charles and Lois Nauheim Agricultural Economics Scholarship.
- Savonburg: Colton Sutterby received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Sharon: Hannah Rankin received the William S. May Scholarship Ag Finance Scholarship.
- Shawnee: Hailey Utech received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- St. Paul: Josie Albertini received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Sublette: Taylor Williamson received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Syracuse: Ira Kullot received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Ulysses : Jordan Howard received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship, and Reile Meile received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Wakarusa: John Garrett received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Wakeeney: Kinsey Griffith received the CHS Foundation Scholarship.
- Washington: Taylor Metz received the Adrian John Polansky II Scholarship.

# 2018 Scholarship Banquet

- Webber: Michelle Unruh received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- White Cloud: Aubrey Wright received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship
- Wichita: Emily Zwick received the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship.

## Colorado

- Walsh: James Wilson received the Ted Heath Memorial Scholarship and the Thomas G. Hobbs Memorial Scholarship.

## Illinois

- Fairbury: Ryan Steffen received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Macomb: Morgan Lowderman received the American Ag Credit Scholarship.

## Indiana

- Fowler: Kenzie Kretzmeier received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.

## Iowa

- West Liberty: Gracie Danner received the CHS Foundation Scholarship and the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.

## Missouri

- Defiance: Darby Schmidt received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Drexel: Sara Gammon received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Higginsville: Ross Dudley received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- Holt: Trenton Covington received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship and the E. Robert and Donna Kern Ag Scholarship.
- Platte City: Haley Firkins received the Charles Dean and Harriet McNeal Mem Scholarship.

## Nebraska

- McCook: Thatcher Skolout received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.
- West Point: Luke Gnad received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.

## Pennsylvania

- Greencastle: Claudia Hissong received the Flinchbaugh Ag Policy Scholarship.

## Texas

- Waller: Dalton Springer received the James E. Pruden Jr Memorial Scholarship.

## Wisconsin

- Arlington: Hannah Taylor received the Gladwin A Read Memorial Scholarship.

# 2018 Featured Producer: Bob Haselwood



*Bob Haselwood*

Bob Haselwood was the 2018 Featured Producer at the recent Risk and Profit Conference presented by the Department of Agricultural Economics. Haselwood is a soybean, corn, and wheat farmer in Shawnee County. His farm encompasses 1,850 acres and has been no-till farming since 1999. Haselwood has served with the Kansas Soybean Commission, the United Soybean Board, the Kansas Farm Bureau, and the Shawnee County Farm Bureau. Haselwood was chosen to provide his unique insights into modern farming operations in Kansas.

Recently, Haselwood has started to plan possible succession of his operation to Ryan Johnson. Johnson has previous experience in the financial sector as a financial advisor and sees Haselwood Farm Incorporated as a way of getting back to his roots after working in his youth on his own family farm.

"It's kind of going back to something I've always enjoyed doing, and I can leverage my experience in financial analysis and my education to add value," says Johnson.

For his part, Bob says it has taken some getting used to as he grants more responsibility for the day to day operations over to Ryan.

"It's different," says Haselwood with a laugh "I noticed a difference in the workload and responsibility. I'm happy to make the adjustments, and now I have a younger person coming in to work with me on the operation."

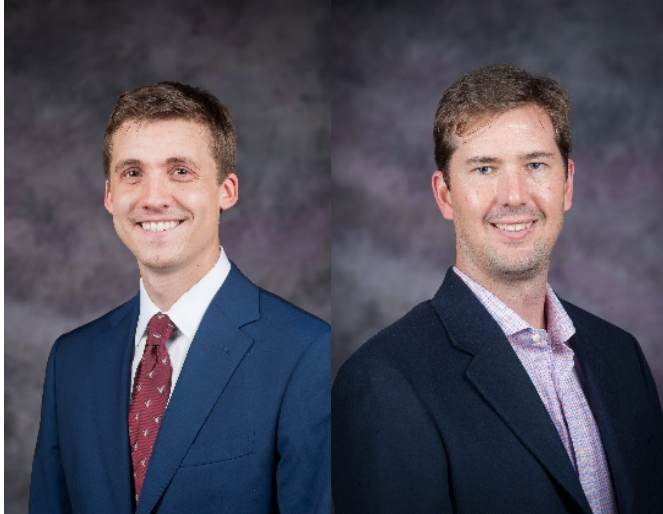
Haselwood participated in "A Conversation with a Kansas Farmer" at the conference. Bob recounted his experience in the agricultural industry and working towards finding the best practices for his operation and championing causes for his fellow producers on the national and global stage.



*2014 United Soybean Board Executive Committee, Bob Haselwood as Chairman*



# Role of Peer Effects in Natural Resource Management



Dr. Ed Perry

Dr. Gabe Sampson

Dr. Gabe Sampson and Dr. Ed Perry recently published a study in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* titled "The Role of Peer Effects in Natural Resource Appropriation - The Case of Groundwater". The research studies the effect of neighboring farming operations' irrigation behavior on a producer's ability to purchase a groundwater permit. The research isolates the role of peer effects on water resource management from other environmental factors to find the answer.

The researchers analyzed decades of data ranging from the early 1940s through the present day. The focus was on state

groundwater rights permits issued from a local government resource used by producers. The permits require an engineer to ascertain whether a new permit would violate the water rights of other producers using the same resource.

"We find that neighbors influence whether a producer applied for a permit," says Sampson.

According to the research, the impact of peer influence effected approximately 11 million acre-feet of water extracted from the Kansas High Plains Aquifer. The research discovered a second finding as well that posits the peer effect increased the speed of adoption of water resource appropriation of neighboring farms. The study points to this peer effect having a substantial impact for policy makers to consider when designing new management policies and attempting to maximize the influence of those policies with the creation of future harvest control rules.

Sampson says he first had the idea for the research after mapping the water irrigation adoption data and seeing clusters of adoption occurring over time in a particular pattern.

"This is one of the first things I noticed after arriving in the Department of Agricultural Economics," says Sampson "I was hired study water issues, and we have an incredible trove of data on water rights in Kansas."

Sampson an economist with the Department of Agricultural Economics and specializes in resource management. He teaches graduate level courses on environmental and resource economics in the department. Perry researches industrial organization and agricultural supply chain economics, and environmental economics for the Department of Agricultural Economics. Perry recently presented "Climate Change Adaptation: Planting Date and Soil Temperatures in U.S. Corn" at the Annual Agricultural and Applied Economics Association meeting.

# Distinguished Alumni: Bill Graff



*Dr. Allen Featherstone and Bill Graff*

The Agricultural Economics Distinguished Alumni Award was established in 1967 and is the Department's way of recognizing alumna of the department who have distinguished themselves in their career, service and achievements to community, state, nation and/or globally.

Recently, this award was given to Bill Graff. Bill is a 1998 graduate from the department and is now serving as the Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Cerner. Graff has over 30 years of experience in the IT industry and built the information systems operations program as the company grew to now serving over 500 healthcare clients in 26 countries. Graff manages a team of IT specialists overseeing the advanced needs for an ever-evolving healthcare space. These services include cloud computing, client and server-side security systems, network optimization and other cutting-edge IT solutions.

Graff oversaw massive growth of his department during his tenure at the company. In 2005 Cerner fielded 6,000 associates in the organization, and now operates with over 26,000 in 2018. Globally, Cerner revenues topped \$5 billion dollars in 2017.

Agricultural Economics Department Head, Dr. Allen Featherstone, says "Bill is an outstanding leader in his field, and exemplifies the excellence we honor with this award."

The Agricultural Economics Distinguished Alumni award recognizes graduates whose endeavors have made a significant impact on the profession. Contributions of service to local, state, national community and/or globally are weighed as part of the selection process. The award recognizes the highest standards of integrity and character that exemplifies the spirit of Kansas State University and the Agricultural Economics Department.

Some of the previous awardees include:

- CEO Koch Nitrogen
- Agricultural Ambassador, U.S. Trade Representative
- Secretary of Agriculture – Kansas
- Minister of Agriculture – Paraguay
- Chief Economist – House Agriculture Committee
- Vice President Agricultural Trading – Gaviion
- Missionary – Africa
- CEO, MMR Enterprises, LLC
- Producer – Junction City, Kansas
- Producer – Garden City, Kansas
- Professor
- USDA FSA
- Editor – Successful Farming
- Governor, Senator
- State Legislator
- Chief Justice – Supreme Court of Kansas
- Farm Broadcaster
- Senior Economist, Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank
- Member, Kansas Board of Regents
- Farm Credit CEO

The Department of Agricultural Economics provides effective and unbiased applied research products to support teaching, outreach and extension projects impacting the global marketplace.

# MAB: Blockchain Event



*Tyler Lindholm- Chief of Ranching Operations, Beefchain.io and Wyoming State Representative*

Traditionally, blockchain technology has been associated with Bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies. As the technology evolves, other areas are finding ways to use blockchains including the food and agriculture industry. In October, Kansas State University's Master of Agribusiness (MAB) program, Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) and Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) hosted a blockchain workshop to discuss the technology and how it might be applied to the agriculture industry.

"Major retailers have created some of the buzz in recent months, announcing that they will require suppliers to be on blockchain very quickly. We know that businessmen and women in food and agriculture are some of the most innovative and forward-thinking professionals out there, and we wanted to make sure that we are providing opportunities as part of K-State's Land Grant Mission to equip them to move forward with this innovation where it makes sense," said Deborah Kohl, coordinator of the MAB program and conference organizer.

Blockchain is a "hot topic" in food and agriculture, with potential uses, including assisting with traceability in animal health, more quickly pushing out notification and isolation in food safety recalls, and streamlining financial transactions to accelerate the speed of business.

"One example of blockchain use in agriculture is Walmart's requirement of romaine lettuce and spinach producers to implement food traceability through blockchain technology in the near future," Tanner Ehmke, CoBank, said. "They will be able to track food from farm to fork in real time. This technology could be applied to the entire food production supply chain."



# MAB: Blockchain Event

Workshop attendees heard from several speakers covering different aspects of blockchains and how they are being used in the agriculture industry. Speakers and sessions included:

- Blockchain 101 - Andy Brudtkuhl, National Pork Board
- First Movers, The Case of Wyoming Beef – Rep. Tyler Lindholm, Beefchain.io
- Practical Applications - Rachel Gabato, RIPE
- Practical Applications - Lukas Fricke & Neil Johnson, ChorChek
- Practical Applications - Tanner Ehmke, CoBank

The workshop concluded with a round-table discussion with the speakers and attendees.

“I was really impressed with the topics covered as well as how diverse of a group of speakers we had. I feel like blockchain was covered from a multitude of angles and I find myself talking about it to friends and coworkers more than I expected to be. It's great to hear that this technology will have such an impact on improving traceability and food safety in the agribusiness world. The ability to have a secure ledger that is truly up to date and accurate is something many businesses struggle with and I'm excited to see how this could disrupt the industry,” Pierce Randall, Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc., said.

The Master of Agribusiness program will conduct another workshop in Fall of 2019.



*Andy Brudtkuhl- Director of Emerging Technology, National Pork Board*

# Upcoming Risk Assessed Marketing Workshops

A new series of Risk Assessed Marketing (RAM) workshops are now scheduled to begin in January. Presenters will focus on providing producers with the latest ideas and risk skill sets to deal with dynamic global markets.

Presenters will include a USDA Risk Management Agency representative to talk about the latest developments arising in the sector. Dr. Monte Vandever and Dr. Daniel O'Brien will speak on global markets and strategies to manage risk with the new developments regarding trade. Updates will include Limited Irrigation operation examples, and other firsthand experiences of producers from around the state.

Dates of the conference are as follows:

**January 29<sup>th</sup> Ulysses, KS**

**January 30<sup>th</sup> Scott City, KS**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> Colby**



*Photograph by Aaron Sawyers*