

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment



January

Monthly College Newsletter

Message from the Dean



Welcome back for 2018. I hope you had a pleasant and restful break. January is gearing up to be another busy month as classes resume, multiple alumni events occur and the legislative session is underway in Frankfort. We also continue to watch the federal budget for agriculture concerns, and we met with our congressional staff and members in late 2017 in Washington.

With the General Assembly just beginning their work on important topics such as pension reform and the state budget, we will advocate for the mission of this college, together with university leadership. The land-grant legacy of service, science and creation of positive change is foundational to this college.

As the session progresses, Drew Graham and I, along with many others, will advocate for our students, our clients and our state mandates for research and extension during this challenging time. In the weeks ahead, we will try to update you as developments occur, and we may be calling on your expertise to assist us in our efforts. This is a good time to remind everyone that contacts with legislators, other than those that reflect the official position of the university, must be done in your private, not official, capacity.

Recently, many of you may have read that state officials have granted the university permission to give Lexington about 250 acres of land to help lure new employers in exchange for control of several roads around campus. The land swap at Coldstream includes the college's dairy and poultry operations. The college is working collaboratively with UK administration on this process.

We are fully supportive of the university's partnership with the city, which will improve safety on our campus and expand economic development opportunities for our region and state. Our dairy and poultry operations are critically important as well. We will not be shutting down these operations as part of this transition. We have been assured by university administration that both the dairy and poultry operations will be replaced with state-of-the-art facilities. We look forward to working through that process with the university and community.

News

Hall of Distinguished Alumni Ceremony

This year's ceremony will be at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 19 in the Hilton Downtown Lexington Grand Kentucky Ballroom. The college administration and College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Alumni Association cordially invite you to attend this event. This is the highest honor the college bestows on alumni.

The inductees are: Alice Woods Baesler, George A. Duncan, Jewell Deene Ellis, William E. Seale and D. Milton Shuffett. Deadline to register to attend is Jan. 10. Email [Jonathan Furnish](mailto:Jonathan.Furnish@uky.edu) for more information. You can read more about this year's honorees on the college's website following the ceremony.



Thomas Poe Cooper awards

Thomas Poe Cooper, who served as dean of the college from 1917-1951, established the annual awards to recognize an outstanding farm leader in Kentucky and a member of the college faculty for outstanding career research achievement. The 2018 awards will be presented at the beginning of the Hall of Distinguished Alumni induction ceremony. This year's recipients are Warren Beeler, executive director of the Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy, and Surendranath Suman, professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. Email [Jonathan Furnish](mailto:Jonathan.Furnish@uky.edu) for more information regarding the event.

In the news

Experts in the departments of Agricultural Economics and Forestry were in the news throughout December for their economic outlook conference as part of the Kentucky Farm

Bureau's annual conference. The event was attended by the Associated Press and sent out across their service and subsequently used in dozens of media outlets across the United States as well as a few international outlets.

Agricultural economists Kenny Burdine and Will Snell were also featured in media outlets around the world through an Associated Press piece on the resumption of horse sales to China. CAFE Alum and Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles was also quoted in the article that appeared in such media as the New York Times and the Macau (China) Daily Times.

Spotlight

Barbara McFarlane

Manager, UK Motor Pool/CAFE Security



We asked Barbara to share a little about her passions, her career path and what led her to us.

Tell us about your background and what led you to your current role at UK?

I was an industrial mechanic and had gone back to school when my position at Clark Material Inc. ended due to their operations moving overseas. After graduating, I was working in a temporary position with the former Lexington Community College when the Motor Pool manager position opened in October 2004. In the early days, I mainly just handed out keys as the reservations were made in our Ag North office at the time.

Nowadays, we are a one-stop shop. In addition to managing the daily operations, I handle the CAFE charter buses scheduling along with report writing and numerous other tasks. I have always enjoyed

learning new software and had the opportunity to tackle learning the video and gate card software for the research farms and the Motor Pool. Managing the security team seemed like a logical next step.

What is your favorite thing about working in CAFE?

The people! The Motor Pool is available to all of campus so I have the opportunity to meet so many interesting people and have learned so much from them. I had no idea until I started working here that the CAFE and the university as a whole touched so many lives across the nation and abroad. We have had geologists heading out in Motor Pool vans for a research expedition in Denali National Park to the Forestry department using our vehicles to check on hibernating bears in Eastern Kentucky. I love hearing about everyone's travels and having so many experts to glean info from is an added bonus!

What is one thing about you that might surprise people?

I used to build crab pots and repair fishing nets. Being a former marine technology major, I learned how to in school, and when I was still living in my hometown in coastal North

Carolina, it was a handy skill. There is not much call for it though since I have been in Kentucky.

Calendar of Events

January 1

New Year's Day

January 9

Alumni Winter Event

January 10

First day of classes

January 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 17

Last day to add a class

January 19

Hall of Distinguished Alumni (HODA)

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