

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment



March

Monthly College Newsletter

Message from the Dean



Exciting things are moving forward between our college and our friends in colleges across campus. Extension representatives have begun discussions with other colleges to develop relationships that will enhance services available to our citizens. We are in discussions with Fine Arts, Nursing and the Barnstable Brown diabetes unit. Provost Blackwell recently convened a discussion with the entire Deans Council to talk about the possibilities for meaningful, “win-win” collaborations. We appreciate the support of this provost, and we have also had conversations with UK Healthcare executive vice president Mark Newman, himself a son of rural Kentucky.

With the many experts on our campus, the strong presence of a great Extension Service and the pressing health disparities in Kentucky, we have an opportunity to build something innovative and unique that could improve the health of citizens and serve as a national model.

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension and the Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky are two key players in these upcoming collaborations. Both groups are providing great leadership and forward-thinking ideas on how to build a culture of health in Kentucky.

Helping Kentucky families is part of our land grant mission and FCS agents and

specialists have provided important support and training in many areas, including health, since our inception. They see firsthand how poor nutrition and health can negatively impact families and communities. This gives them a keen perspective.

While we have much work yet to do to bring these collaborations to fruition, I, along with the UK administration, am excited about the impact we can have on Kentucky's health disparities. I particularly want to thank Jennifer Hunter and Alison Davis, and the strong network of FCS agents for their leadership in helping to improve Kentucky's health.

Budget update

The state House of Representatives released its budget last week restoring funding to the Small Business Development Center, Division of Regulatory Services, and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Also under its plan, universities will not face the 6.25 percent cut Gov. Bevin proposed in his budget. We had opportunities to present the merits of these units to our elected officials and we received strong support.

This is just another step on the road to a final budget, but we certainly appreciate that the House sees the value in what we do. The next step will be for the Senate to take up the House bill for consideration and possible revisions. We continue to work with UK administration and college leaders to tell our story. [Here](#) is President Capilouto's letter to campus regarding the latest budget information.

Office of Diversity interim director

In the college, our goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive environment that allows faculty, staff and students to reach their highest potential. Diversity is also a driving force in our service to stakeholders.

With the departure of Quentin Tyler as assistant dean of diversity, we are in a time of transition. I am pleased that **Mia Farrell** has agreed to serve as interim director to maintain the great momentum of this program. We will undertake a discussion on how to build on Tyler's distinguished leadership in preparation for a search for new leadership for the Office of Diversity.



This position is critical to the overall goals and mission of this college. It provides leadership in strengthening workplace diversity, recruiting and retaining a diverse student body, building cultural competency, and monitoring assessment and reporting activities.

Mia currently serves as Cooperative Extension human resources specialist, UK MANRRS co-advisor, National Jr. MANRRS co-chair, Kentucky Extension Diversity Network president-elect and as a member of the UK Women's Forum. We are indeed fortunate to have her leadership.

News

Grain and Forage Center of Excellence groundbreaking

Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate a milestone for the Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. Groundbreaking ceremonies will be at 2 p.m. CT Thursday, March 15 at the Research and Education Center in Princeton. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please RSVP to Colette Laurent at colette.laurent@uky.edu

2018 Ken Freedman Outstanding Advisor Award



Congratulations to **Esther Fleming**, academic coordinator for Agricultural and Medical Biotechnology, on being named the 2018 Ken Freedman Outstanding Advisor in the professional category. The award is given annually to a faculty advisor and a professional advisor by the UK Advising Network to recognize outstanding undergraduate academic advising.

Congratulations also to the college's other nominees. Professional Advisor category nominees were John Hill, Ann Leed, Geri Philpott,

Anissa Radford and Susan Skees. Faculty advisor nominees were Mary Arthur, Kenny Burdine, Czarena Crofcheck, Rebekah Epps, Grace Gorrell, Bob Houtz, Krista Jacobsen, Leigh Maynard, Mika Pryor, Jack Schieffer, Tammy Stephenson, Jason Swanson and Scarlett Wesley.

CAFE in the news – a snapshot

- [U.S. Farmers Are Producing Too Much Food. Here's Why They Can't Stop](#): Wall Street Journal, cetusnews.com (Tim Woods, Agricultural Economics)
 - [Researchers Learn from Plant Viruses to Protect Crops](#): the-scientist.com (Peter Nagy, Plant Pathology)
 - [Concerning levels of multi-drug resistance found in Staphylococcus samples taken from horses](#): horsetalk.co.nz (Jackie Smith, Stephen Locke, Erica Phillips, Erdal Erol and Craig Carter, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory)
 - [Spray Drift: Control the Controllables](#): Agriculture.com (Travis Legleiter, Plant and Soil Sciences)
 - [The Real Reason Brown Eggs Are More Expensive Than White Eggs](#): huffingtonpost.com, msn.com, yahoo.com (Jacquie Jacob, Animal and Food Sciences)
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Spotlight

Jamie Dunn

Assistant Dean for Advising and Student Support, Center for Student Success

We asked Jamie 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?

After graduating high school in West Virginia, I moved to Kentucky, got married and began attending Lexington Community College. I attended LCC for three semesters, but decided to quit school to work full-time at the grocery store where I was employed. After about six years of doing this, I was looking for a change, so I sought employment at UK. I began working as a staff support associate in the Office of Undergraduate Admission in 1998 and restarted my undergraduate degree in 1999. After about three years of working full-time and going to school part-time, I decided to return to school on a full-time basis. In September 2003, I started working in my current department as a student employee and I haven't left. As the years progressed, I finished my undergraduate degree and then my graduate degree which opened-up opportunities for me within my department. I went from being a student employee, to an administrative assistant, to the assistant director of student success, to the director of student support and retention and then into my current position as of November. As assistant dean for advising and student support, I lead a sub-team within the Center for Student Success that promotes student success through academic advising and student support.



What is your favorite thing about working in CAFE?

Our college has a reputation for being one of the best academic colleges on UK's campus. I would attribute this to the amazing community of people who make up our college. Being a part of this community and working with incredible people every day is the best.

What is one thing about you that might surprise people?

I changed my major six times. I worked on my undergraduate degree for many years on a part-time basis, so I guess I had a lot of time to think about what I wanted to do. Once I found Public Service and Leadership within CAFE, I was finally excited about a major. I often relay my own experience to students who are considering a major change. I certainly wouldn't recommend changing six times but once or twice is okay.

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Helpful Links](#)

March 6

Equine Career Fair

[Giving](#)

[College Weekly for Faculty & Staff](#)

[College Weekly for Students](#)

March 8

International Women's Day

[The Ag Magazine](#)

[Contact Us](#)

March 11

Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 12-16

Spring Break

March 15

Grain and Forage Center of Excellence
Ground-Breaking Ceremony

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

March 20

Spring Equinox

March 20

National Ag Day

March 26

Registration Begins for Summer and Fall
Terms

March 28

Last Day to Apply for August Degree

March 30

Last Day to Withdraw From a Course

