

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

November

Monthly College Newsletter

Message from the Dean



In a month that highlights gratitude for the food we produce, one of the things I am truly thankful for is this incredible college community of faculty, staff and students. Representing and supporting this diverse and talented group is truly inspiring. Each month in this newsletter, we highlight some of the accomplishments of faculty and staff. This month, I would like to mention some outstanding students, so that everyone in the college can see what great talents we are helping to develop.

During Roundup activities, we heard inspiring comments from Michaela Mineer and Fabian Leon. Michaela is a senior double majoring in family sciences and communications, and minoring in community and leadership development. Fabian is a junior agricultural and medical biotechnology student, national undergraduate student parliamentarian for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences, and a U.S. Department of Agriculture Wallace-Carver Fellowship recipient.

It was rewarding to listen as they told university, community and government leaders about their passion for the college, the great support they receive from their professors and the exciting opportunities they have encountered on our

campus.

Here are a few more recent examples of exceptional students within our college:

- Emily Major, a junior agricultural and medical biotechnology student, recently received an NSF Kentucky EPSCOR Undergraduate Research Fellowship.
- Angela Wei, agricultural and medical biotechnology student, was selected to participate in the 2017 Dartmouth MD/PhD Undergraduate Summer Fellowship Program.
- Abdelaziz Lawani, an agricultural economics doctoral student, was noted for his work in a Boston Globe article by Chelsea Clinton *Young people are taking on the world's most pressing challenges.*
- Dion Compton, equine science and management major and business minor, was awarded an inaugural scholarship through the Legacy Equine Foundation.
- Zachary Tyler, a 2016 biosystems and agricultural engineering graduate, received a 2017-18 Fulbright Research Grant to study the environment in Brazil.
- Albert Ksinan, family sciences doctoral student, was one of only eight U.S. students selected to attend the European Association for Developmental Psychology-European Society for Research on Adolescence-Society for Research on Adolescence Summer School program.
- Gracie Furnish, agricultural education sophomore, was elected East Region vice president of the National FFA Organization.

Additionally, our MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences) chapter and Agricultural Economics' Academic Bowl team are top notch. MANNRS has been named the nation's best chapter for the past five years while the Ag Econ team has earned back-to-back national championships.

This is just a small sample of our many outstanding students. Please congratulate these students, and the many others who are doing great work, when you see them in our classrooms or in our hallways.

News

Outstanding Staff Awards



The 2017 College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Outstanding Staff Award recipients are:

- Bryan Cassill, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, *Executive/Administrative/Managerial/Non-Professional*
- Ann Leed, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, *Executive/Administrative/Managerial/Non-Professional*
- Janene Toelle, Department of Agricultural Economics, *Office and Clerical, On-Campus*
- Leslie Cutshaw, Trimble County Extension Service, *Office and Clerical, Off-Campus*
- Billy Workman, Agriculture Construction Services, *Service, Maintenance, Skilled Crafts*
- Edward Hutchens, Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, *Technical/Paraprofessional*
- Brian Lauer, Department of Entomology and Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, *Technical/Paraprofessional*

Click [here](#) for more information about the Outstanding Staff Awards and this year's recipients.

Kentucky FCS shines

Kentucky family and consumer sciences agents received a number of accolades at the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences meeting.

- Janet Johnson, Allen County, was named Educator of the Year.
- Lora Lee Howard, Clay County, was installed as the association's president.
- Katherine Alexander, Webster County, Melanie Bealmear, Union County, and Denise Wooley, McCracken County, received distinguished service awards.
- Elizabeth Kingsland, Fayette County, Edith Lovett, Pulaski County, and Leslie Workman, Pike County, received continued excellence awards.
- Melissa Goodman, Hickman County, Judith Hetterman, Owen County, and Diana

Doggett, Fayette County, received honors for their innovative programming efforts. Doggett also received the Joint Council of Extension Professionals' Creative Excellence Award.

Congratulations

Sandra Bastin, chair of the Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, was named to the Southeastern Conference Academic Leadership Development Program during the 2017-18 academic year.

In the news



With harvest still underway in much of the state, many of our faculty have been highlighted in state and national media in recent weeks for their work in economics, yields, grain drying, alternative storage and a new soybean app developed in partnership with the Kentucky Soybean Board. Click [here](#) to read more about their work.

Ag North issues and update

Last month, a water leak damaged a number of offices in Ag North. As a result, faculty and staff located in the office suites N-212, N-106, N-308 and N-310 and lab N-306 are being or have already been temporarily relocated. Impacted program areas include horticulture, extension field programs, extension business officers, program and staff development, AgrAbility, emergency management, equine programs, plant and soil sciences, agricultural and medical biotechnology and natural resources and environmental sciences. If you need to locate one of the displaced workers, the best option is to contact them through email or Skype. Repairs and remediation to the impacted areas are underway. The timeline for completion varies. UK's Physical Plant Division will be conducting asbestos abatement while employees are displaced. Proceeding with the abatement now will reduce overall costs of the abatement and prevent future disruption of the affected areas.

Web site update

We will be rolling out a new look for the college homepage this month. This theme update provides a refreshed, modern look and implements additional requirements of the University's web standards. The most notable changes will be a reduction in the number of colors, a more streamlined header, and a streamlined global footer section. Other than changes to the header and footer, remaining college pages will not change and site editors will receive additional details from the college web team.

Spotlight

Kelly J. Smith, Jefferson County Extension agent, shares what keeps her going and why county extension offices are important for educational growth in young kids.



Calendar of Events

November 3

First Friday: Eat Local, Shop Local

November 6

Registration Begins for Winter & Spring Semester

November 10

Last Day to Withdraw from a Course

November 11

Scholarship Luncheon

November 22-24

Thanksgiving Break

November 27

Major Change Window Reopens

November 28

Giving Tuesday

November 30

Last Day to Apply for May 2018 Degree

Helpful Links

[Giving](#)

[College Weekly for Faculty & Staff](#)

[College Weekly for Students](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Click the image above to view the latest issue of The Ag Magazine.

