



OCTOBER 12, 2018 • STANLEY STOUT CENTER • MANHATTAN, KS

K-State Animal Sciences and Industry
Family & Friends
REUNION

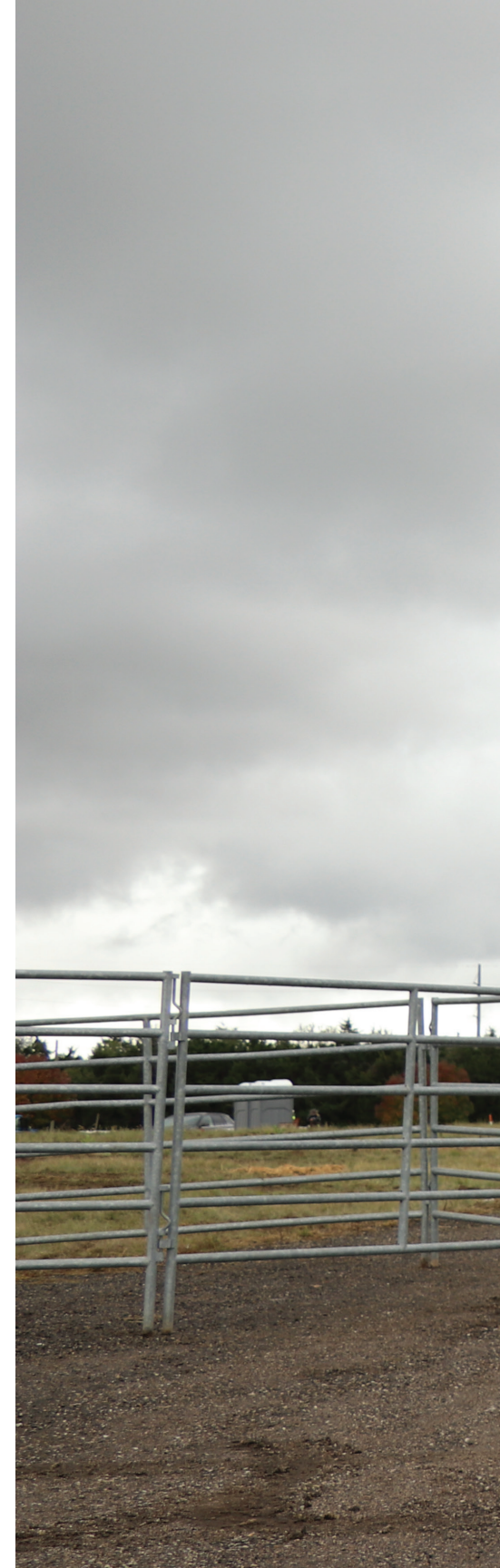


WELCOME HOME

More than 1,300 attendees took the opportunity to re-connect with each other and interact with current students, faculty and staff. The Animal Sciences and Industry Family & Friends Reunion is a celebration that our journey is never completed alone. It's the shake of a familiar hand. A hug from a life-long friend. It's the pat on the back for a job well done. A congratulations for another successful year. It's more than colleagues and memories — it's a family.

It's a "Welcome Home."

SINCERELY,
THE EDITORS OF FAMILY & FRIENDS PUBLICATION



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Mark your calendars for next year's event and more.

IMPACT AWARD



CATTLEFAX

The 2018 Don L. Good Impact Award honors CattleFax for providing years of analysis plus marketing and risk management information to the cattle industry.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY: SARAH MOYER



Doing good by providing service to others is a simple idea, but doing good for 50 years is not simple to do. Still, the 2018 Don L. Good Impact Award recipient, CattleFax, has and continues to bring a marketing service to cattle buying and selling for those who join its membership.

After half a century, today's CattleFax members at their most basic level receive "Daily E-News" with market commentary and special access to market updates and industry research data. Its focus lies in its charge, which is to help cattle producers, says Kevin Good, CattleFax vice president of industry relations and analysis, a December 1981 K-State ASI graduate, and the nephew of the late Don L. Good.

In his opinion, the mission of CattleFax "ties in very closely with what Don was all about: making the world better."

Connections between the organization and the university string back to the start. From the K-State family comes a number of current and former analysts and board members. "You could go down that list forever," the vice president says.

HISTORY

One former analyst from earlier days of the non-profit's history (1974-1980), Doug Deets, says Kansas became critical to CattleFax when leadership in the Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) and others invested in the idea.

"Fifty-two years ago, CattleFax was just a crazy brainstorm idea in the marketing committee of the old National Cattlemen's Association," says Deets, current Buchanan & Company president. "Kansas jumped right in."

The producer group, motivated by some distrust of the monthly USDA statistics at the time, decided to try and develop a private industry database of Cattle on Feed numbers. It continues to serve as a system of "checks and balances," Deets says.

As the program built initial momentum, a regional office set up shop in the KLA office in Topeka, but by the mid-'70s CattleFax consolidated its team to one central office in Denver, Colorado.

Pat Koons, former analyst from the original Topeka office, says the time spent in Kansas was valuable as cow-calf operators and cattle feeders bought into the idea. He and colleagues traveled around the state to KLA events where up to 300 producers attended each meeting.

"They weren't used to getting market information like that, and we could provide it and had a lot of support," Koons says. "I don't think there was a state anywhere that grew as fast in membership."

LEADERSHIP

Eventually both Koons and Deets moved their employment to other parts of the livestock industry: Koons to feeding cattle and Deets to risk management with another company. Both recognize the impact of CattleFax through the years.

"The concept of the Don L. Good Impact Award is to honor an individual, organization or company that has truly had a long-lasting impact on the livestock industry in the state of Kansas," says Deets, who also currently serves on the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) Board. "They are without question the premiere market reporting, market analysis and cattle risk management analysis service in the industry, and we use that very extensively in the state of Kansas."

The board member also recognizes the organization's special collaboration with K-State Research and Extension and K-State's ASI Department.



The CattleFax team today includes several analysts with Kansas roots and through the years the CattleFax board of directors has had numerous leaders who call Kansas home. Pictured above right, during the Don L. Good Impact Award ceremony, are current CattleFax employees with former analysts and board members who have a Kansas connection and attended the award program on October 12.

LEGACY

Although not asked for, the 2018 Don L. Good Impact Award sets a standard for continued excellence in an organization such as CattleFax.

“We wouldn’t have made it 50 years without the Kansas connection,” says Randy Blach, CattleFax CEO.

Kansas membership holds strong as it looks to support future efforts to navigate volatile cattle markets.

“Our deepest membership base is in the state of Kansas,” Good says. “If we look at the feedlot region in particular, and that’s the region I work on, on a day-to-day basis, our membership would have 80 to 90 percent of the cattle in feedyards. A vast majority of Kansas is plugged into CattleFax.”

With this big audience, the opportunity to serve the cattle community and provide information will stay relevant.

“It’s humbling as a company to be recognized because we weren’t formed to go out and try to get accolades or awards,” the nephew says. “We were formed to serve, just as Don Good did.” **K**

THE TEAM

CattleFax has assembled a team of research analysts and experienced professionals who provide expert advice to customers when developing a marketing plan and a sound risk management program, including an assessment of their break-evens, as well as evaluating different marketing alternatives.

The CattleFax staff monitors more than just cattle markets. Grain, weather, beef demand and competing proteins – not just domestically, but globally – are carefully monitored. Keeping up with the times to make sure producers have quality information on a timely basis, which allows them to make informed marketing decisions, is a daily challenge for the staff.

Along with a talented staff, CattleFax is governed by a board of directors who provide vision for the organization.

Through the years, Kansans have played an integral role in CattleFax’s success. “The Kansas connection has been a key to success for CattleFax,” explains Randy Blach, CattleFax CEO. “CattleFax has been blessed to have a great working relationship with Kansas State University’s faculty and staff and the Kansas Livestock Association’s leadership and staff.”

Blach credits many current and former board and staff members with Kansas roots who have contributed greatly to the organization’s vision.



Pictured left: It was an honor to have so many members of the Don Good family attend this year's K-State ASI Family & Friends Reunion. Don's nephew, Kevin Good, was one of the honorees so several generations of Goods came to the event to celebrate. Special guests (pictured seated far right) included Don's brother, Fred Good, and sister-in-law, Judy.

RETURNING TO HIS *Roots*

Reunion committee member Justin Janssen gives generously of his time and resources to his alma mater.

STORY BY: SARAH MOYER AND KELLI SCHRAG

Kids dressed in purple laugh and play outside Kansas State University's Stanley Stout Center during the fourth annual Animal Sciences and Industry Family & Friends Reunion. Entertainment for kids at the event gains special attention from one Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) board member in particular: Justin Janssen.

Janssen grew up in Geneseo, Kansas, and moved to Manhattan as a pre-veterinary medicine student. He took Animal Sciences and Industry classes as an undergraduate before transitioning to the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine.

After graduating in 1972, Janssen served two years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corp. He then moved to Westfield, Indiana, to work at an equine veterinary center.

"I went for one year but ended up staying 33 years," Janssen says.



After three years of working at the center, he started his own practice — Janssen Veterinary Clinic in Sheridan, Indiana. The clinic boasted four veterinarians and served both large and small animal care needs. Janssen's focus was on meat animals and horses.

Janssen retired from practice after 30 years and moved with his family back to Kansas. Janssen, his wife, Mary, settled north of Alma, 25 miles from their alma mater.



Janssen's greatest and proudest accomplishment is his family. Mary earned a bachelor's and master's degree in speech pathology from K-State, and his children — Ben and Katie (Janssen) Kueser — are both K-State graduates as well.

"There's a little purple in the bloodstream," Janssen jokes.

BARNYARD LEADER

After returning to Kansas, Janssen became part of the LMIC Board and has served in this position for seven years. As part of the position, he has also served on the Family & Friends Reunion committee since its start.

Janssen made it his personal mission to create a unique experience for junior Wildcats who attend the event. To say he has been successful in accomplishing that task is an understatement. The Junior Wildcat Barnyard has become an iconic trademark of the event. Every year, young and old alike arrive anxious to see what new and novel additions to the barnyard Janssen has dreamt up, and he never ceases to amaze the crowd.

Annually Janssen has won the hearts of those who participate in Junior Wildcat Barnyard with activities such as life-sized rocking horses, a multi-tier hay bale slide, hand-crafted toddler picnic sets, and the tractor pedal pull, all of which are designed and made by Janssen in his shop on the ranch. "These kids just think he's Santa Claus," says Patsy Houghton, reunion coordinator.

He contributes to the event in other ways besides the junior barnyard, including fundraising and a new handmade, metal "Flying K" archway that greeted guests at this year's event, another classic Janssen creation.

The barnyard leader gives Santa a run for his money when the end of the evening rolls around and toys are awarded. Traditionally, there were about 50 items raffled, but this year Justin, after a suggestion from event sponsors Kelly and Marcie Lechtenberg, increased the project to make sure every child whose name was in the drawing would leave the evening with a special toy.

"Because we recognized CattleFax with the Don L. Good Impact Award, we gave away a (toy) beef cow with the Flying K brand," Janssen explains. "Every kid that registered and signed the Letter of Intent had their name called out at some point."

Hours of behind-the-scenes work to hand-paint the Flying K brand on the cows demonstrates how Justin works quietly and with a humble attitude to make each young attendee feel special.

"He's just a kid at heart," says Bill Miller, fellow LMIC board member. "He thinks of things that kids would love to do, and then he makes it work. I think it's really affected how many people come to this event."

It did for Hayley Langton and her family as they attended for the first time this year. She says her kids looked forward to the toy giveaways, and she looked forward to the food.

"With three kids, it's so nice having a place for them to come and play," she says. "There's lots of different things, so they're having a blast."

One of her 5-year-old twins, Colby, whose favorite animal is a horse, enjoyed the slide best. He had also colored, received a purple temporary tattoo and was about to ride a rocking horse when interviewed.

Justin understands these top-notch hospitality experiences impact future generations.

Reflecting on Janssen's other efforts, Miller adds, "We give him credit for the Junior Wildcat Barnyard, but he's so much more than that to this committee and to this event. Justin looks at something, and he has an idea of what would make it better, and then he just does it."

Janssen's volunteer efforts perpetuate the mission of the event.

"We talk a lot about family at Kansas State University," Houghton adds. "All you have to do is go look at the expressions on the kids' faces in the Junior Wildcat Barnyard, and you truly do get the meaning of family." K



JUNIOR WILDCAT BARNYARD

The Junior Wildcat Barnyard is a popular attraction each year at the Family & Friends Reunion. The barnyard featured a sand farming pit, a Letter of Intent signing, a train ride, a pedal tractor pull, slides and more. These images showcase the laughs, smiles and experiences of the event for future alumni.





JACK RILEY

Student Center

A fitting tribute to a Legacy that lives on.

A renovation to the Weber Hall Lounge is dedicated to the legacy of Dr. Jack Riley.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY: TAYLER GALL

Books line the shelves, collecting dust as students use laptops to view online textbooks. Black-and-white photos stand out against the freshly painted purple walls. A recent renovation of the Weber Hall Lounge has created a stark contrast between the modern Jack Riley Student Center and the legacy of the man it was named after.

Dr. Jack Riley, a Hamilton, Missouri, native, began his career at Kansas State University as the faculty coordinator of the Beef Research Unit in 1971. In 1987, Riley was selected as the new Animal Sciences and Industry department head after Don Good retired. Riley was the first department head in the newly renovated Weber Hall and he served in this position for 17 years. During his time at K-State, he taught more than 7,000 students, doubled enrollment numbers and continued conducting beef cattle research. Retiring in 2006, he gave 35 years of dedicated service to K-State.

The ASI department began to look for ways to honor Riley after he passed in 2017. “Dr. Riley was one of the kindest, caring leaders I’ve ever met,” says Dr. Dave Nichols, K-State ASI teaching coordinator and professor. “He believed in students and working as a team to advance our animal science program.”

The K-State ASI faculty today is almost completely composed of faculty hired by Riley. “You can measure one’s legacy and the success of a department head by not only

the enrollment increase but also by the staff hired,” Nichols says. It was Riley’s inspiring leadership and story that sparked the idea of the new Jack Riley Student Center.

Sabrina Ault, K-State ASI business manager, orchestrated the entire project.

“With funding provided by the Rogler family, a need to update the lounge and a want to honor Riley, we had quite an amazing opportunity,” Ault says.

Over the years it has been obvious that the historic Weber Hall Lounge has needed updates. “Why not use the funding to give students in one of the most highly sought-after animal science programs an up-to-date and advanced space?” Ault adds.

Ault began the project in the spring of 2018 by conducting surveys of the ASI student body to learn what additions would be the most beneficial. Basic needs included new paint, seating and carpet. More advanced updates allowed the center to be better utilized by students. These updates include white boards for studying, spaces for students to collaborate, a microwave, access to meeting rooms and screens for presentation use.

The updates will allow students to use the student center for video interviews or presentations. Students can schedule private times to utilize a conference room through a new digital modem found outside of the room. The conference rooms are equipped with privacy shades and all the necessary technology.

Although the student center has taken on a new look, there were other aspects that were important to the project staff as well. While the renovated student center boasts modern updates and access to new technology, the historic heritage is still represented by the Rogler library, paintings, memorial plaques and other memorabilia.

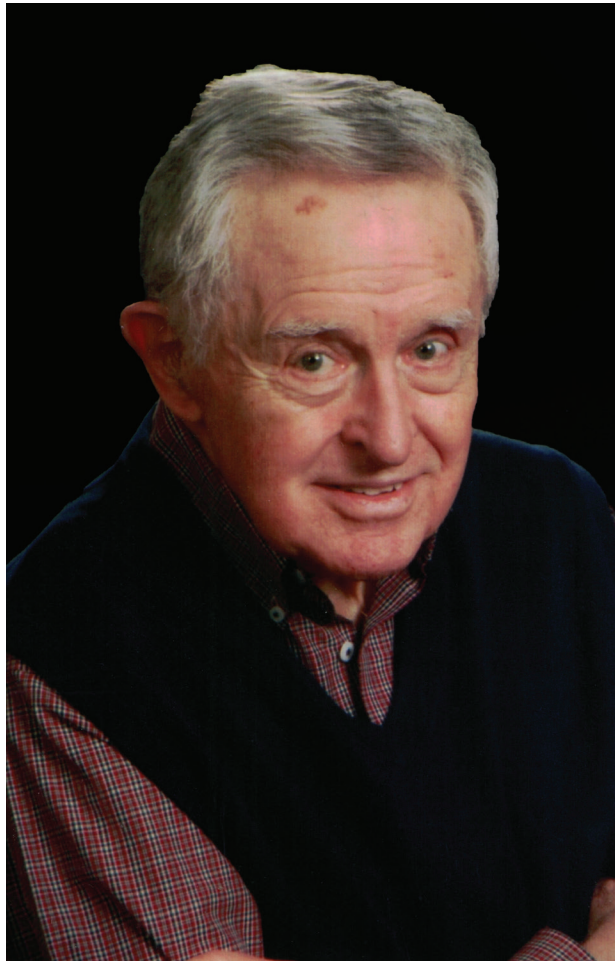
“Our main goals were to modernize and utilize the space more efficiently while keeping intact the important historical aspects that have made the KSU ASI department what it is today,” Ault says.

The updates are utilized daily by students and it is truly clear that they were made with the students in mind.

“Dr. Riley cared about the students more than anything. He would most definitely be proud of the advancements made to the new student center and humbled to be honored in this way,” Nichols says.

As students come and go for years to come, more legacies will be left and memories will be made. The student center will forever hold a special place in the hearts of all the family and friends of K-State ASI and the legacy of Riley will continue.

“The Jack Riley Student Center is a fitting tribute to a great man who was totally dedicated to young people and students,” Nichols says. “He was a phenomenal teacher, advisor, and true friend of the students. While some of the students today may not know who he was, this dedication will allow his legacy to live on.” **K**



THE ROGLER LIBRARY

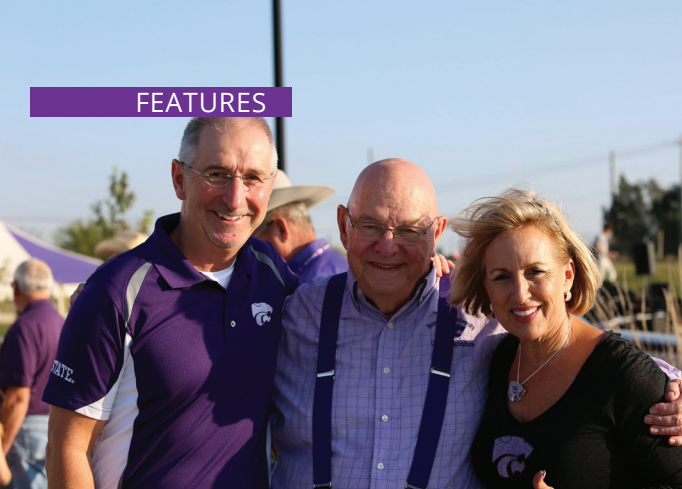
The Rogler family dates back to one of the earliest homesteaders in Kansas, who staked their claim in Chase County. Their main ties to K-State began in 1926 when Wayne Rogler graduated from Kansas State Agricultural College. After graduation, his love for the cattle industry led to the establishment of the Rogler Ranch.

After enduring some hardships, Wayne was able to grow into a very successful operation and fulfill his dream of becoming a true cowboy. With no heirs to take over the operation, the Rogler family established the Pioneer Bluff Foundation, a nonprofit organization. In 1988, Wayne and Elizabeth donated \$100,000 to the ASI department.

This led to the establishment of the family endowed Rogler library. Today the library can be found perfectly nested within the Jack Riley Student Center, providing today's students with access to many historic literature pieces.



FEATURES



PASSION FOR STUDENTS: *A legacy lives on*

The current and past academic coordinators have developed a passion for student success.

STORY BY: EMILY MEINHARDT

The key to student success in the Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry is a dedication to building personal relationships with students while delivering a curriculum that prepares them to work in the modern livestock industry. This tradition of connecting with students was modeled by Dr. Miles McKee and is seen daily in the work of Dr. Dave Nichols, current ASI academic coordinator.

McKee grew up in Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, and completed both his bachelor's degree and master's degree in animal husbandry at K-State. He then went to the University of Kentucky to obtain his doctorate in animal science. In 1959, McKee was appointed as an assistant instructor and beef cattle herdsman at K-State. From 1968 to 1998, McKee served as the ASI academic coordinator.

Creating a friendly atmosphere was a focus for McKee, and he emphasized flexibility and caring about students. It was his goal to know every student on a personal level and push them to be their best. McKee's unwavering commitment to his students is his legacy.

"Miles believed in students when they didn't believe in themselves," Nichols, mentee of McKee, says.

Mishelle Hay McCammant, College of Agriculture academic services coordinator, says this passion for student success was an easy one to grasp for Nichols.

Nichols had a similar upbringing as his predecessor. He was raised on a family farm and ranch located near Brookston, Indiana. He completed a bachelor's degree from Purdue University in animal science, then obtained a master's degree and doctorate from K-State. In 1981, Nichols joined the faculty as a swine extension specialist. Two years later he accepted an 80 percent teaching and 20 percent research appointment.

"When thinking of the legacy of the people who have made a major impact on me in my life, it's Don Good, my major professor Bob Hines, and of course Miles McKee, and that's still the case today," Nichols says.

It is appropriate that each semester Nichols teaches ASI 102, Principles of Animal Science, in Miles McKee Auditorium. For a period of time McKee and Nichols each taught a section of this course. "Miles could take a piece of chalk and go to the board and it was magic," Nichols said.

Not every department has a heavy focus on an introductory course; however, it's one both professors recognized as important. "This might be the only agriculture class that a student may take," Nichols says. "I want the students to come away from the class knowing where their food comes from."

It was their true friendship and caring bond for students that helped McKee transition to Nichols as academic coordinator in 1998. Nichols says he felt comfortable taking on the challenges of the position knowing that McKee was just down the hall to offer advice and support.

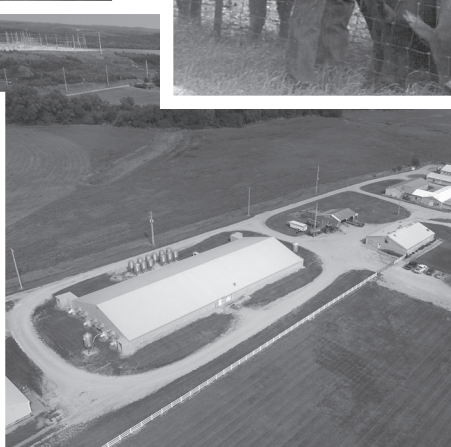
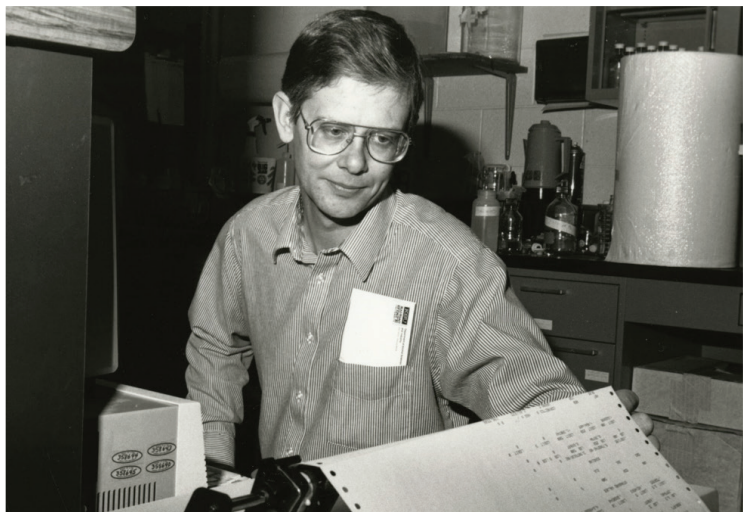
Technology and enrollment numbers have been two of the biggest changes to Nichols' current role as academic coordinator. All of McKee's student information was kept in individual file folders instead of the electronic storage of today's world. To show his commitment to being accessible, Nichols gives each student his cell phone number.

"The role of this position is always serving the needs of the students at that time," Nichols says. "You don't have to be like them, but understand where they are coming from. Students appreciate when we are real!"

As total enrollment in the ASI department has climbed to more than 1,200 students, he says it has been hard to get one-on-one time with each student. However, Nichols makes it a goal to know each student in ASI 102 and enrich his or her time at K-State, just like McKee did.

There is no doubt that this mindset is one that drives the success of undergraduate students and will ensure a lasting legacy in the ASI department.

"When I first started in this position and had to make a decision, I thought, 'what would Miles do?'" Nichols says. "I still think that to this day." **K**



RAISING PIGS, KIDS AND K-STATE'S FUTURE

A tribute to how one man helped change the way K-State does swine science.

STORY BY: ADRIAN AUSTIN

In his beat-up, dusty Pigtales cap and with the gentle demeanor of a grandfather, Dr. Duane Davis, recently retired Kansas State University swine reproductive physiology professor, approaches the front of the swine unit classroom. Serving as a guest lecturer for the day, Davis asks, “Who here has ever tested for estrus in a gilt?” A few students raise their hands, but most look on quietly, wide-eyed and eager to learn.

As the class ventures across the lawn into the swine unit barns, Davis follows the students at a distance, chatting with his long-time colleague, Dr. Bob Goodband, professor of swine nutrition and management. It’s evident there is a sense of camaraderie between the two men.

“I met Duane in 1984 when I came to grad school and have worked more closely with him these past 15 years or so helping out with the swine science lab,” Goodband says. “It says a lot about Duane that he still cares enough to come back and help teach.”

With this generous mindset for helping others, Davis served in several different roles during his time at K-State.

“I started in January of 1977, 41 years ago,” Davis says. “It was the first time K-State hired a swine reproduction person. This farm has been here for a long time. Dr. Bob Hines was in charge of the unit when I started and a little more than 20 years ago I wound up being the director of it.”

Reluctant to boast about himself, Davis trails off when asked about his contributions to the swine unit. However, Goodband is quick to interject on Davis’ behalf.

“When Duane first got here, he got the farm going on artificial insemination (AI) in the early ’80s,” Goodband says. “This was novel at the time because AI didn’t take off in the industry until the mid-’90s.”

“Davis had the farm doing things 15 years ahead of schedule that the swine industry takes for granted today.”

From a research standpoint, Davis made several contributions to science that assisted the university. In the ’90s, Davis did a lot of research on early embryonic development and toward the end of his career he conducted umbilical stem cell research that was pioneering.

Even Davis is willing to admit the unit came a long way during his tenure. “The really impressive thing to me is that 20 to 25 years ago we weaned about eight

pigs per litter and now we wean over 13 pigs per litter. That’s at least a 60 percent increase,” he says. “The farm stays a little above average for the swine industry, and it makes a really effective teaching and research tool.”

Dr. Joel DeRouchey, professor of swine nutrition and management and extension swine specialist, also speaks on the department’s success. “The K-State swine group is strong in applied research, training students in actual live production, meat and food science as well. We have an applied, practical approach,” DeRouchey says. “This will be a continued strength of the department and much of that goes back to how Duane focused his career around practical swine reproduction to help producers.”

Davis has his own thoughts on where the swine group and unit will head in the future. “This unit is going to continue to do what it has done. The swine industry itself is advancing rapidly in all aspects of efficiency of production. I expect this unit to continue to do that,” Davis says. “We are fortunate to have quite a few new facilities, but we need some more. The farrowing barn is one that needs to come along as soon as possible. We need to keep things running right because there are lots of careers in the swine industry so having the ability to bring students out here is funneling people into the swine industry on a global scale.”

Davis ultimately hopes to see the department and unit grow and expand in his absence and attributes much of his devotion to the swine industry to the incredible K-State atmosphere.

“This is a really great place to be,” Davis says. “The hesitation I had retiring was that I wasn’t really sure I wanted to quit. People want to be here because of the people.”

Davis may have stuck around so long because of the people, but in the end Goodband says that for everyone else, Davis was the person who made K-State’s swine group feel like home.

“When you look at what Duane’s done from a research and teaching standpoint, you see he’s made an impact on people’s lives,” Goodband says. “And I think at the end of the day when you sum things up, if you can say that you made an impact, that’s a pretty good thing.” **K**



FAMILY & FRIENDS ENTERTAINMENT

Family & Friends Reunion is an experience. Excellent food is enjoyed while listening to live music. K-State's very own marching band always makes an appearance to ring in the Wabash Cannonball with fellow students and alumni. Limited edition gifts are also given to attendees each year. Here is the highlight reel of this year's amazing event entertainment and delicious food.





PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

The undergraduate research class equips students with skills necessary for industry work.

STORY BY: KELLI SCHRAG

The Department of Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI) offers numerous opportunities for student growth. Clubs, teams and mentorship from faculty all encourage the professional development of undergraduates. Course curriculum prepares students for a career within the industry. A certain class, ASI 561 - Undergraduate Research in Animal Sciences and Industry, is specifically designed to impact students' critical thinking and ability to analyze data.

ABOUT THE CLASS

Students enrolled in the undergraduate research class gain a mentored undergraduate research experience in animal or food sciences.

"In the undergraduate research class we, as a class, actively conduct an entire research experiment from planning and understanding the research question, all the way to communicating results," says Dr. Cassie Jones, associate professor in Animal Sciences and Industry.

Students learn the concepts of developing a research project, from planning and organizing data, to the theory behind statistical analysis. They are also taught how to communicate the same scientific message to different audiences, whether it is to producers, scientists or the general public.

Students enrolled in the 2018 fall semester class chose to participate in either of two projects: meat goat or meat science.

STUDENTS SHARE RESEARCH DURING SYMPOSIUM

Each semester, K-State Animal Sciences and Industry students present their findings during the Undergraduate Research Symposium, hosted in Weber Hall. Both students in the undergraduate research class and those conducting participant-based research are required to create a poster detailing their results and present their findings to their peers, ASI faculty and a panel of judges. Students are judged based on a combination of their scientific abstract, poster and presentation of data. The top four students are awarded \$1,000 scholarships sponsored by the Dr. Mark and Kim Young Undergraduate Research Fund in Animal Sciences and Industry.



“Students that are part of the goat project are studying if SoyPlus, a specially processed soy-based protein, can effectively replace soybean meal or distillers grains in growing meat goat diets,” Jones says.

Twenty students have the responsibility of feeding 75 goats twice a day and calculating weights weekly during the 42-day study. They will also collect urine samples at the end of the project.

Students participating in the meat science project are responsible for conducting consumer taste panels and laboratory analysis to determine fat percentage and moisture content on eight steaks.

“Instead of dealing with live animals, students will be grilling eight steaks to a common temperature and conducting taste panels,” Jones explains. “They will also be doing their own shear force analysis.”

Upon completion of the projects, students prepare and defend their findings.

“Students write up their findings in a scientific abstract, print a scientific poster and defend them in a two-hour research forum where other students can come and learn about the research projects that have been done,” Jones says.

Faculty, graduate students and experienced undergraduates offer assistance to students to help them understand the research process.

“We have a number of graduate students and undergraduate teaching assistants in the class that help reduce the mentor to mentee ratio so that students get a lot of direct supervision with their research mentor,” Jones says.

PREPARING FOR INDUSTRY WORK

The undergraduate research course helps students learn the concepts of research with hopes they will build on those skills.

“If students are interested in doing research on an individual basis, they have a better background to be able to do more in-depth research at a broader level later in their career,” Jones says.

Gage Nichols, feed science and technology graduate student, is applying the skills he learned from taking the class to his own studies.

“I learned a lot about experimental design and the statistics involved in deciding research projects,” Nichols says. “This class gave me the skills I needed to research subjects and write protocols on my own.”

Jason Paine, College of Veterinary Medicine student, accredits the class for teaching him how to evaluate data and effectively present information to the public. As a teaching assistant in the class, Paine’s duties included managing the goats and making sure their needs were met.

“I lived at the sheep and meat goat unit so it was a great opportunity for me to participate in the project and keep a consistent eye on the animals,” Paine says.

He presented the research findings at the Western Section of American Society of Animal Science conference in Bend, Oregon, in June 2018.

“I networked with researchers and presenters from other universities and learned about the projects they were working on,” Paine explains. “It was exciting to see other students’ contributions to research.”

A PROGRESSIVE WAY

While conducting a research study in a class setting is not considered traditional in sense, it is how the ASI department has accommodated for the mass amount of students wanting to conduct undergraduate research.

“The data says 78 percent of our undergraduate students in animal science want to conduct undergraduate research,” Jones says. “While the previous model that we used for years was phenomenal at helping improve student learning and impacting critical thinking, we simply don’t have enough faculty, time and money to be able to accommodate all of those students doing research in the traditional sense.”

Jones hopes the research class will prepare students to take an active role in the industry post-graduation.

“As we are increasingly pushed to feed more and more mouths in a more sustainable way with fewer and fewer resources, we need to do that by being progressive agriculturalists,” Jones adds. “We need to use the data available to make the best decisions for our animals, for our people and for the earth. We must be producing this next round of agriculturalists that are capable of analyzing and utilizing data to make the best decisions.” **K**

UNIQUE

The close proximity of Kansas State University's livestock units provides unique learning experiences for students and faculty.

STORY BY: MADISON LOSCHKE

The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI) students and faculty are fortunate to have the opportunity to work closely with the university livestock units. Most of the livestock units are conveniently located within a three-mile radius of Weber Hall. These units house a variety of species and allow a multitude of learning opportunities to take place for students and faculty. Most of the opportunities revolve around research projects that utilize the units and allow the university to remain one of the top agricultural institutions.

Fangzhou Wu, a graduate student in animal science, has dedicated his college career to working on swine projects. He says he is “blown away” by the opportunity he has at K-State. Wu came to K-State after completing a master’s degree at the University of Minnesota, where the units were more than a three-hour drive from campus.

Throughout his research experience at K-State, Wu appreciates the closeness of the units. “The best and the worst part of being so close to campus is the daily chores,” Wu says.

The chores at the swine unit require early mornings and late nights, but Wu has gained valuable insight by doing these chores. He says the knowledge gained by doing daily chores allowed him to understand his research more than his previous research experiences.

Jason Woodworth, swine unit coordinator and associate research professor, says, “The real value in these units is hands-on learning.”



Students and faculty have the chance to conduct studies and participate in the execution of the study due to the close proximity of the units. This also allows students to gain a hands-on perspective with what they are learning in the classroom. ASI classes take numerous trips to the units to connect classroom learning with the real world. Units are also part of the Agriculture Experience day that prospective students participate in during a college visit.

“The value is being able to have active and healthy teaching, as well as a research program where the students have hands-on learning opportunities,” Woodworth says. The ASI department understands the value of hands-on learning and has created an incredible opportunity.

Professor Barry Bradford also knows the value of the units for students and faculty. He recognizes that students learn the wide range of topics covered in animal science better by direct interaction with the animals. The livestock facilities allow students to learn how different animal handling processes work.

Bradford sees an immediate advantage for dairy students. “The fact that our dairy is just a mile from Call Hall means that students can get face-to-face with the cows in any class time when that fits the objectives,”

Bradford says. “Likewise, dairy research that we conduct is largely overseen by graduate students who have to juggle classes, lab work and farm work. The fact that they can get from classes or labs to the dairy in five minutes allows them to be far more productive and to complete studies that just wouldn’t be practical with a remote facility.”

The closeness of the dairy unit also provides an advantage for elementary schools. Bradford says more than 1,000 elementary school students visit the dairy each year and usually stop at Call Hall Dairy Bar following their tour. This also begins exposing potential students to K-State at an early age.

Many out-of-state students choose K-State because of the learning accessibility. “We need to keep working to maintain and update these facilities so that we can continue to offer a top animal science program in the U.S.,” Bradford says.

K-State’s livestock facilities offer many different learning aspects for students to further develop themselves and prepare for their future careers in the agricultural industry. This is one of K-State’s many attributes that help it rank as one of the top college prospects for students interested in agriculture. **K**

BEN E. BRENT ANALYTICAL LAB

The Weber Hall analytical lab is renamed after the man who developed it.

STORY BY: ADDISON BEUTLER

Weber Hall plays a key role in the foundation to so many successes and advancements. Each person who has passed through its halls has left a legacy on the agricultural industry, but none quite like Dr. Ben Brent.

During Brent's career at Kansas State University, his development of the cooperative analytical laboratory has made an impact not only in K-State's Animal Sciences and Industry department, but the entire field of animal science. This laboratory continues to advance, thanks to the foundational work of Brent. Because of this, in 2018, the analytical lab was given the deserving name, "Ben E. Brent Analytical Lab."

Brent earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at K-State. He then moved to Michigan State University where he earned a doctorate in ruminant nutrition. In 1966, he accepted a teaching position at K-State and moved back to Manhattan with his wife, Ellie. Brent always had a strong interest and exceptional skills in chemistry and science and brought this talent into the department when he began teaching. He was known for bringing the "science" into the animal science department.

His biggest contribution to the department was the development of the cooperative analytical laboratory in 1968. Under Brent's leadership and direction, the lab provided services to all animal-related areas of the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station.

"If you think of the analytical lab from the late '60s to today, all of that is thanks to Dr. Brent. He was the analytical lab," explains colleague and friend Dr. Keith Bolsen, a professor in the ASI department during the time of Brent's teaching and research career.

Not only did Brent reshape the ASI department in regard to the analytical lab, he also pioneered the department's first computer lab,



which addressed animal agriculture applications. Brent is also well known for his guidance on numerous graduate student committees. Brent always prioritized students and genuinely cared for their well-being and success.

"I was able to work with many different students throughout my time in the lab and I always enjoyed working with them," Brent says.

Bolsen adds, "When we had graduation parties for all of my master's and doctorate students, Ben was always the first one there to congratulate them."

After 36 years of service to the department, Brent retired in 2002. He built up and maintained a strong and respected reputation as a scientist throughout his career in K-State's ASI department. Though retired, his contributions of knowledge, scientific advancement and passion will forever leave a lasting impression on the entire ASI department.

"I am really thrilled that they are naming the analytical lab after Dr. Brent," Bolsen says. "He is responsible for all the success it has enjoyed over the years. Ben is Mr. Analytical Lab." **K**



MORE THAN ONE SET OF *Reasons*

Animal Sciences and Industry students participate on judging teams to prepare for their future and create lasting relationships.

STORY BY: LEAH GIESS

Getting involved is an easy task for most Kansas State University Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI) students, but for a select few on judging teams, involvement means hours on the road in a van, constantly practicing reasons and working towards making that perfect decision.

BEYOND THE FUNDAMENTALS

Students choose to participate on judging teams for many different reasons, but it goes beyond learning just the fundamentals of specie-specific judging. Students have the opportunity to grow into well-rounded and successful leaders in the industry.

Dean Klahr, ASI senior, has been a member of both the horse and livestock judging teams. During his time judging he has realized the importance of relationships, not only with his team members, but his outside network.

“The network you create while judging really allows you to be involved in the industry,” Klahr says.

For Jayne Bannister, ASI senior, her time on the meat judging team allowed her to learn from her mistakes and grow into a better communicator because of them.

“In judging you learn from your mistakes and rise above them,” Bannister says. “You just have to put more time and effort into your work to become an even better evaluator.”

Like many jobs, communication is key, but learning to concisely give an opinion and defend decisions is a must in judging.

“Using a shorter economy of words and getting the message across in a unique way will definitely help you stand out,” Klahr says.

CAREER PREPARATION

Students can strategically plan for their future through judging by gaining and developing the necessary skills it takes to be successful, whether that be starting a conversation with a stranger or interviewing skills.

“Having to do reasons in front of people can have a big effect on success in other circumstances where you have to talk to people you’ve never met before,” Klahr says.

For Ron Hinrichsen, K-State ASI alumnus, his experience on the livestock and meat judging teams helped him grow into the professional he is today. Currently serving as director of sales and marketing at GENEX Beef, his expertise in sales can be traced back to all the sets of reasons he had to give during his time on the teams from 1990 to 1991.

“In judging you make a decision and then give a reason for that, but reasons in sales are the features and benefits of a product,” Hinrichsen says. “Sometimes you will have



to go against a competitor’s product and give reasons why the customer should pick your product over competitors, coming back to those features and benefits.”

In his role at GENEX, Hinrichsen hires area and territory sales managers. When looking through resumes, a livestock judge usually stands out due to their ability to evaluate cattle and help a producer best accomplish their goals.

“By being able to evaluate cattle it will help a potential candidate to work with producers to match up the right genetics to reach their goal,” Hinrichsen says.

He also appreciates how meat judges can work with a producer on the commercial side to make those decisions to help enhance the carcass quality and grow calves.

Klahr also has experience in sales, interning with Hill’s Pet Food as a pharmaceutical sales intern in Dallas, Texas. During his time at Hill’s he learned to work with a variety of opinions.

“Something I learned from sales is being able to communicate with anybody, no matter what walk of life they came from,” Klahr says.

Participating on a judging team can be demanding of time, but it pushed both Bannister and Klahr to work toward what they are passionate about.

“It can be overwhelming at first, and make you hesitant about doing it, but if you have a passion for something, the knowledge gained during judging will be valuable for the rest of your life,” Klahr adds.

LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS

Just like any team dynamic, judges bond with their teammates and share in the same experiences. Many come from different backgrounds with different levels of expertise. Klahr did not have the opportunity growing up to be heavily involved in the show industry, so he takes every opportunity he can to learn from his teammates.

“Having teammates with experience in the different industries helps because it allows you to see things from their perspective,” Klahr says. “Being able to grasp their knowledge, take in the things that they know and learn new ideas is definitely an asset.”

When Hinrichsen sees a teammate he has not seen for years, they pick up right where they left off.

“You can’t put a price on the friendships you make,” Hinrichsen says.

Bannister values the time she had with her teammates and coaches, and overall the connections she made.

“The job opportunities are great, and finding your passion is great but the friendships you make are second to none,” Bannister says. “It’s more than just being friends, it really is a family.” **K**





STUDENT HELP

Family & Friends Reunion is made possible in part by the help of current undergraduate and graduate students. They help in facilitating the Junior Wildcat Barnyard, parking, set-up and helping as servers. These images highlight the hard work and dedication of our students to our department outside of the classroom.

NEW CALL TO ICE CREAM

The Call Hall Dairy Bar opened a new location in the Student Union.

STORY BY: ALLISON SMITH



The words “ice cream” have a beautiful ring to anyone with a sweet tooth. At Kansas State University, the savory dessert is a prime example of the farm-to-table concept that has become increasingly popular. The Call Hall Dairy Bar utilizes the K-State Dairy Teaching and Research Center located north of campus to produce ingredients for all of its dairy products, including uniquely flavored ice cream. Since its debut in 1964, Call Hall and its ice cream have become so popular that it recently opened a second location on campus.

The Department of Animal Sciences and Industry opened the new “Call Hall at the Union” in August 2017. The new location of the Call Hall Dairy Bar is intermingled with all the other dining options in the Student Union. With the new location, everything in the process of getting ice cream to the consumer occurs within a 16-block radius.

The dairy bar staff believes the new location allows them to reach a whole new set of students than they were before with just one location. “The new location provides us with a great opportunity to educate prospective students and families on multiple aspects of the Animal Sciences and Industry department,” says John Kessler, KSU ASI food service manager.

Students, staff and the public can learn about the K-State dairy facilities and the dairy industry as they wait on their treat. Television screens provide educational information about the dairy industry and how ice cream is produced.

The 2018 was full of new and exciting challenges for the Dairy Bar, as it started serving ice cream during all K-State home football games. Kessler says staff hand-scoop about 2,000 cups of ice cream every home game day.

In addition to ice cream, the Call Hall Dairy Bar also sells traditional holiday gift baskets. The Dairy Bar works with several clubs within the ASI department to advertise and promote the baskets. The funds raised are distributed between the clubs and the Dairy Bar.

Student involvement is a key focus for the Call Hall Dairy Bar. “This campus has a great feel to it whereas student involvement is a focus, and in my opinion, the people at both the Union and at the Animal Sciences and Industry department are what make that happen,” Kessler says. “Clearly these two areas are not the only people who promote that idea, as it takes an entire village to make that happen, but to be a liaison between both entities allows me to gather ideas from multiple sources to assist me in discovering ways to expand the cooperation between those two contributors.”

Kessler recognizes the importance of student labor in every step of the process, from milking the cows, to working in the Call Hall processing facility, and finally scooping the ice cream in the shop. “All of these processes are done by student labor. It’s for students by students, serving students.” **K**



UNIT STUDENT HOUSING

ASI livestock unit student workers reap benefits that go far beyond the classroom.

STORY BY: WHITNEY WHITAKER

Some students choose to live in the dorms, while others opt for an off-campus house or apartment. Some Kansas State University Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI) students would rather live in a barn. Luckily, the university's livestock units offer that option.

Currently, students are able to live at the Sheep and Meat Goat Center, the Purebred Beef Unit (PBU) and the Swine Unit. Construction is almost complete at the Stocker Unit to allow students to live there and take care of its livestock.

At each facility, two students are selected to live at the unit free-of-cost while they manage and tend to the animals. While only two students have the extra responsibility of around-the-clock care that comes with living at the unit, students with a vested interest in livestock management can also work at the units as their schedule allows.

REQUIREMENTS

Each day consists of chores and caring for the unit animals. Those who live at the unit are expected to go beyond the daily chores and meet needs as they arise.

At the Sheep and Meat Goat Center, Jason Paine, College of Veterinary Medicine student, and Sam Davis, ASI senior, often work long hours during lambing and kidding season. Robert Mullet, ASI senior, and Mitchell Duer, agriculture economics senior, do the same during

the PBU calving season. These students are responsible for making sure there are little to no problems when assisting with birthing. Living at the unit allows them to make sure things are done efficiently and effectively.

OPPORTUNITIES

Many of the events that take place at the units also help students learn to not only raise livestock but promote and market them as well. The Sheep and Meat Goat Center houses undergrad research projects that Dr. Alison Crane, ASI assistant professor, and Dr. Cassie Jones, ASI associate professor, oversee.

Every spring, the Sheep and Meat Goat Center consigns livestock they have raised to the Wildcat Futurity Sale and Show. The event, hosted by the unit, gives local producers another avenue to sell their own stock. Junior exhibitors in the state have the chance to exhibit their livestock at another spring show.

The PBU is involved in both youth and industry events. The unit supports many junior activities including livestock judging workouts and providing cattle for the Little American Royal, a university livestock show that Block & Bridle and Dairy Science Club host in the spring. The first Friday of March each year, PBU hosts the Legacy Bull and Female Sale. Additionally, PBU hosts educational tours for people and businesses within the industry.

The students currently living at the units advise interested students to take advantage of this experience.

Even with the other activities to be involved in at K-State, nothing will compare to getting such real-world experience, they say.

"If you have a good work ethic and want to be involved, living at the unit is a great opportunity," Duer says.

Working and living at a unit is not an easy task, but the time management, responsibility and hands-on experience that students can gain is extremely beneficial. Working at a unit prepares the student for their future career and teaches them the importance of a strong work ethic. Skills learned through caring for livestock and assisting with the management of a K-State unit stand out on resumes.

The hours spent working at the unit certainly build a strong skill set, but a career path can also be shaped at the same time.

"Overseeing the undergrad research project allowed me to realize that nutrition wasn't what I wanted to do long term, but instead it reinforced my interest in management," Davis says. He credits his experience with research to helping him narrow down his future career goals.

K-State ASI students are passionate about agriculture and their future endeavors. However, students who get the opportunity to live and work at a livestock unit take their passion beyond the classroom to gain real-world experience that prepares them for their future career. **K**



FACES OF FAMILY & FRIENDS

With our largest crowd yet of more than 1,300 attendees, the 2018 K-State Animal Sciences and Industry Family & Friends Reunion was a huge success. We are grateful for each and every member of our family, which is composed of alumni, faculty, staff, students, future alumni, friends and more. These images capture just a few of the faces of those who celebrated with us at the event.





DEPARTMENT AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to our successful faculty members and students who excelled in 2018.



Dr. Luis Mendonca
*Outstanding Extension Specialist Award,
American Society of Animal Science*



Dr. Dale Blasi
*K-State Research and Extension
Builder Award*



Dr. Ken Odde
*Jay B. Dillingham Award for
Agricultural Leadership and
Excellence, The Agricultural Business
Council of Kansas City*



Dr. Kelly Getty
*Honorary Chapter Degree,
Eustis-Farnam FFA Chapter, Eustis, NE*



Dr. Joel DeRouchey
*Extension Award, American Society of
Animal Science*



Karen Blakeslee
*Distinguished Service Award, 4-H Youth
Development Department*



Robert "Bo" Fiest
*Departmental Employee of the Year -
University Support Staff*



Sarah Reasoner
*Continuing Education Support Specialist
Award, University Professional and
Continuing Education Association
Central Region*



Allie Hobson & Cashley Ahlberg
*2018 K-State ASI Outstanding Masters
Student Award, 2018 ASI Outstanding
PhD Student Award*



Leah Scholz
2018 K-State ASI Outstanding Senior

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Plan to join us for the 5th Annual
KSU ASI Family & Friends
Reunion on October 4, 2019.

Thank you to this group of outstanding students who helped with the photography and writing in this publication. The class was sponsored by the LMIC Board. Pictured front row (l to r) are: Kelli Schrag, *Editor*, Allison Smith, Cheyenne Swoope, Andrea Vandever Moore, Taylor Belle Matheny, *Photo/Social/Video Editor*, Whitney Whitaker and Adrian Austin. Back row (l to r) are: Molly Bertz, *Managing Editor*, Emily Meinhardt, Leah Giess, Addison Beutler, Tayler Gall, Madison Loschke and Sarah Moyer.





Kansas State University



Animal Sciences and Industry

K-State Animal Sciences & Industry • Weber Hall • 1424 Claflin Road, Manhattan, KS 66506
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