

K-STATE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

>>>

2015
AWARDS
PROGRAM



LEADING IN A **CHANGING** WORLD

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- » Share ideas on how to lead through challenging times.
- » Promote learning through innovative programs based on our five grand challenges.
- » Build personal and professional relationships through networking with colleagues.
- » Recognize outstanding programs and contributions by faculty and staff.

WELCOME

Welcome to the annual K-State Research and Extension awards luncheon. We are pleased and honored to recognize exceptional programs and contributions by faculty and staff. These individuals exemplify outstanding programming and professionalism that furthers the mission of K-State Research and Extension in Kansas and across the world.



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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» USDA TENURE AND EXTENSION SERVICE AWARDS

USDA Tenure

Service through September 30, 2015

30 Years

Jana McKinney, McPherson County

Nadine Sigle, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Community Development

Cynthia Williams, Meadowlark District

35 Years

Jodi Besthorn, Sedgwick County

Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director's Office

Jody Holthaus, Meadowlark District

Timothy Stucky, Kansas Farm Management Association

40 Years

Robert Bauernfeind, Entomology

Elizabeth Curry, Northwest Area

David Kehler, Butler County

Fran Richmond, Frontier District

Extension Service

Service through September 30, 2015

10 Years

Debra Bolton, Southwest Area

Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Sedgwick County

Michelle Buchanan, Midway District

Taner Gillum, Clark County

Kelsey Holcomb, Cowley County

Tandalayo Kidd, Human Nutrition

Dan Lekie, Johnson County

Clinton Milliman, Kansas Farm Management Association

Brian Rees, Lyon County

Kent Shaw, Southwest Area

James Stack, *Plant Pathology*

Jeffrey Wichman, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

20 Years

Kris Boone, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

Forrest Buhler, *Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services*

Al Davis, *Kansas Agricultural Rural Leadership*

Steven Graham, *Dean and Director's Office*

Robert Holcombe, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

Larry Jackson, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

Randall Kowalik, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

Linda Lamb, *Family and Consumer Sciences*

Chris Onstad, *Northwest Area*

25 Years

Fadi Aramouni, *Animal Sciences and Industry*

Dale Blasi, *Animal Sciences and Industry*

Cindy Evans, *Shawnee County*

Larry Havenstein, *Communications and Agricultural Education*

Paula Peters, *Family and Consumer Sciences*

Leroy Russell, *Shawnee County*

Rod Schaub, *Frontier District*

Alan Stevens, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

30 Years

Laurie Chandler, *Associate Director's Office*

Duane Hund, *Agricultural Economics*

Mary Knapp, *Agronomy*

Martha Murphy, *Wildcat District*

Outstanding Local Unit Award

Shawnee County

Alice Brooks, *Program Assistant*

Laurie Chandler, *County Director*

Joanne Domme, *Office Professional*

Cindy Evans, *Extension Agent*

Brooke Gray, *Program Assistant*

Jamie Hancock, *Extension Agent*

Janice Jones, *Nutrition Assistant*

Jenny Kelly, *Program Assistant*

June Martin, *Program Assistant*

Lisa Martin, *Extension Agent*

Candis Meerpohl, *Extension Agent*

Margarita Munoz, *Nutrition Assistant*

Leroy Russell, *Extension Agent*

Kim Seeley, *Office Professional*

Loren Snell, *Board Chair*

Kendra Stover, *Nutrition Assistant*

Tracy Tugman, *Nutrition Assistant*

Pam Weaver, *Office Professional*

The Shawnee County staff has demonstrated excellence in programming, personnel, and financial management. Here are examples. Program Development Committees and agents held four community forums during the past year to identify issues related to the grand challenges.

Programming is often held in previously underserved communities. Planned pro-active efforts have been implemented to build relationships with commissioners, county department heads, and news media. Volunteers are an important component of the local program with volunteers contributing an estimated value of \$302,300 to the program.

All Shawnee County agents are or have served in leadership roles in professional associations and are frequent recipients of professional recognition. Currently one active and one former board member serve on the State Extension Advisory Council.

Grants, contracts, in-kind and financial support from local organizations, and earnings from the Shawnee County Extension Foundation help supplement their local budget.

Outstanding District or County Extension Professional Award

Diane L. Burnett, *Extension Agent, Marais des Cygnes District*

In her 24-year career with K-State Research and Extension, Diane Burnett has exhibited excellence in programming. She is known for her expertise in family resource management. She served as co-leader of the Family Resource Management Program Focus Team for five years and continues as an active member. She has authored or co-authored several programs and publications, including *Basic Money Management for Life*, and *Get Financially Prepared: Take Steps Ahead of a Disaster*.

Diane helped pilot the Master Food Volunteer program and continues to provide leadership to an active group of volunteers. The Family Nutrition Program and ServSafe classes for food service employees and managers are other key elements of her programming.

She demonstrates her commitment to excellence through leadership and service to three professional organizations, which have recognized her with numerous individual and team awards.

Outstanding Area or State Extension Professional Award

Trudy Rice, *Extension Associate, Community Vitality*

Trudy Rice was described by her nominators as "the ultimate extension professional" and a "capable leader and collaborative team member." She has served K-State Research and Extension as an agent, local unit director, and currently as an extension associate and state leader in community vitality.

Trudy pursues new opportunities to expand and promote community vitality programming. She forged a partnership with a community foundation that led to hiring an extension associate to work with communities in northwest Kansas.

She formerly served as co-leader of the Community Development Program Focus Team. The team's Board Leadership Series project has reached more than 500 board members from various organizations in 100 communities across Kansas. Trudy is known for her expertise

in facilitating groups. She recently provided leadership to a series of more than 50 public water meetings throughout Kansas.

Outstanding Program Focus Team Award

Nutrition, Food Safety and Health Program Focus Team

Barbara Ames, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District*

Fadi Aramouni, *Extension Specialist, Animal Sciences and Industry*

Gina Aurand, *Extension Agent, River Valley District*

Ginny Barnard, *Extension Agent, Riley County*

Linda Beech, *Extension Agent, Ellis County*

Karen Blakeslee, *Extension Associate, Animal Sciences and Industry*

Kathy Bloom, *Extension Agent, Seward County*

Liz Boyle, *Extension Specialist, Animal Sciences and Industry*

Nozella Brown, *Extension Agent, Wyandotte County*

Melinda Daily, *Extension Agent, Sunflower District*

Lehisa de Fornoza, *Program Assistant, Sedgwick County*

Denise Dias, *Extension Agent, Sedgwick County*

Jodi Drake, *Extension Agent, Pratt County*

Franny Eastwood, *Extension Agent, Marais des Cygnes District*

Sharon Erickson-Fryback, *Extension Agent, Gray County*

Robin Eubank, *Extension Agent, Barber County*

Sharolyn Flaming Jackson, *Extension Specialist, Northeast Area*

Crystal Futrell, *Extension Agent, Johnson County*

Ashley Goudey, *Extension Agent, Post Rock District*

Mary Meck Higgins, *Extension Specialist, Human Nutrition*

Beth Ireland, *Extension Agent, Greenwood County*

Susan Jackson, *Extension Agent, Harvey County*

Elaine Johannes, *Extension Specialist, Family Studies and Human Services*

Susan Johnson, *Extension Agent, Douglas County*

Tanda Kidd, *Extension Specialist, Human Nutrition*

Donna Krug, *Extension Agent, Barton County*

Lisa Martin, *Extension Agent, Shawnee County*

Kathy McEwan, *Extension Agent, Southwind District*

Jan McMahon, *Extension Agent, Sedgwick County*

Bertha Mendoza, *Area Agent, Southwest Area*

Jill Morgan, *Extension Agent, Rolling Prairie District*
Martha Murphy, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District*
Chelsi Myer, *Extension Agent, Dickinson County*
Diane Nielson, *Extension Agent, Atchison County*
Londa Nwadike, *Extension Specialist, Food Safety*
Travis O'Quinn, *Extension Specialist, Animal Sciences and Industry*
Kristin Penner, *Extension Agent, Haskell County*
Paula Peters, *Assistant Director, Family and Consumer Sciences*
Donna Preisner, *Extension Agent, Pawnee County*
Gayle Price, *Extension Specialist, Southeast Area*
Sandy Procter, *Extension Specialist, Human Nutrition*
Becky Reid, *Extension Agent, Cowley County*
Leah Robinson, *Extension Agent, Central Kansas District*
Nancy Schuster, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*
Karen Shepard, *Extension Agent, Graham County*
Lori Shoemaker, *Extension Agent, Rice County*
Denise Sullivan, *Extension Agent, Leavenworth County*
Kathy Tharman, *Extension Agent, Doniphan County*
Bernadette Trieb, *Extension Agent, Wabaunsee County*
Jeff Wichman, *Media Production Specialist, Communications and Agricultural Education*
Andrea Wood, *Extension Agent, Kingman County*
Lori Wuellner, *Extension Agent, Wyandotte County*

From the beginning, shared leadership has been a strong component of the Nutrition, Food Safety, and Health Program Focus Team. Because of the team's size, it required sub-committees in addition to overall co-leaders to delve deeper and focus on specifics of interest to members. Each sub-team has an agent and specialist serving as co-leaders for a two-year term. The entire leadership team of four agents and four specialists participate in monthly conference calls. Between calls, they communicate by email to assure that team business and professional development opportunities are productive and focused.

The various sub-teams also rotate responsibilities for identifying training needs and providing multi-tiered professional development opportunities at Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) February and August updates and annual conference. To provide in-depth

professional development for team members and more basic information for others, the team uses technology to bring outside experts to FCS faculty.

Builder Award

Jason Griffin, *Associate Professor, John C. Pair Horticultural Center, Haysville; Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Jason Griffin and the staff at the John C. Pair Horticultural Center are being recognized for building the Organic Sweet Potato Slip Program. Slips are plant transplants or "starts," and are the best method for producing a sweet potato crop.

The program originated in 2006 with a dozen growers ordering a few hundred. In 2015, 125 farms across 22 states ordered more than 313,000 slips, reaching growers from Oregon to New Hampshire and south to Texas. It provides a service needed by organic farmers. Previously growers had no options for wholesale quantities of certified organic sweet potato slips.

It is important to note that Jason is a woody ornamental researcher and director of the center. Growing sweet potatoes was outside of his responsibilities; however, he identified a need and built a program that is spreading the name and mission of K-State Research and Extension far and wide.

Diversity Award

Linda Lamb, *Program Coordinator, Extension Family and Consumer Sciences*

Linda Lamb has embraced the growing need for cultural competence among K-State Research and Extension faculty and staff, and she has been instrumental in creating a structure to help accomplish this mission.

She was a member of the original Change Agent Team, which experienced a number of powerful and humbling experiences in various racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse Kansas communities. Linda played a vital role in identifying those experiences. She made connections with community resources and took care of logistics to make the experiences come to life.

She is a Navigating Difference trainer and has been instrumental

in organizing a K-State Research and Extension initiative to offer the training to employees. Not only does Linda embrace the need for our system to increase cultural competency, she also has a personal passion to learn and increase her own skills of listening and understanding.

Outstanding Mentor Awards

Barbara Ames, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District*

Over the years, Barbara Ames has been a mentor for a number of new agents. One of her most recent mentees says, "Being mentored by Barbara has been by far the best experience of my professional career. From the beginning she has given me the positive influence that I needed to succeed."

Barbara provides hands-on experiences to new agents by involving them directly in her educational programming. While Barbara is modeling the role of being a successful professional, she is also open to learning from the new agents she mentors. She is easily accessible to new agents – either in person or via email.

"If anyone deserves this award it would definitely be Barbara. She is one of the best assets that K-State Research and Extension has. She is innovative, professional, and one of the hardest working people I know. Because of Barbara I enjoy my career every day!"

Deb Andres, *Extension Agent, Geary County*

Deb Andres' recent mentee appreciated that Deb began building a mentoring relationship through email even before the mentee began working. "When we met in person a week later, it seemed like I knew her already. I left that day with a page full of tasks to check in to and certainly the beginning of a new friendship.

"During some of the mentoring days, I had the opportunity to watch her teach and lead those in her county in a variety of ways. People really relate to her ... they feel her genuine concern for their well-being. Children and families are near and dear to her heart, which shows in her actions.

"I have found extension to be an interesting career so far and appreciate all who have been so willing to help me. I thank Deb for being willing to walk this journey with me. I think of her when I read this quote on my desk from Poet Maya Angelou '... but people will never forget how you made them feel.'"

Local Unit Offices

Bertha Lovelle, *Office Professional, Wildcat District*

Thoughtful, kind, caring, conscientious, dedicated, loyal, and attentive to details are just some of the adjectives used to describe Bertie Lovelle, who has worked for 45 years first in Montgomery County and now the Wildcat District. Bertie has continued to assume additional responsibilities, including transitioning from being the county to the district financial secretary. She is known for her precision in this role.

Not afraid to learn new things, Bertie's skills have grown with new technologies. She is recognized as "the 4-H secretary" in the Independence office, where she has influenced four generations of 4-H members. Bertie goes about her work quietly and without fanfare, and she is observant and thoughtful in her work.

One of her nominators summarized Bertie's nomination with this quote, "Bertie's knowledge, strong work ethic, efficiency, and caring ways are invaluable to Wildcat District and our entire Kansas extension family."

Professional Staff

Robin Reid, *Extension Associate, Agricultural Economics*

Robin Reid joined the Department of Agricultural Economics in August 2014 after serving four years as an agent in the River Valley District. She began her new position as 2014 Farm Bill questions were ramping up. Robin quickly became a department expert on regulations and the economics of enrollment decisions.

She represented K-State at Farm Service Agency trainings, presenting to more than 350 FSA administrative personnel and staff. She worked with department faculty to organize materials and train agents and Kansas Farm Management Association economists. Robin created a website with frequently asked questions, interpretations of new rules, and price updates.

With Robin and the department faculty's training and guidance, agents presented at 179 meetings across Kansas and reached 11,256 producers. They also performed 3,253 individual consultations reaching more than 8,743 agricultural producers.

University Support Staff

Dennis Tomsicek, *Agricultural Technician Senior, Southwest Research-Extension Center – Garden City*

For more than 22 years, Dennis Tomsicek has been an excellent researcher, teacher, and manager for the irrigation and water management research program. He created a comprehensive for corn, wheat, alfalfa, grain sorghum, and sunflower database on irrigation and crop water use covering more than 10 years. The database has been used to calibrate models such as Kansas Water Budget and Crop Water Allocator for western Kansas farmers.

Dennis is self-motivated and always willing to face new challenges and expand his knowledge. He has trained more than 30 students and research personnel and helped them get certification for proper use of the neutron probe, a radioactive-based scientific instrument essential for irrigation and water management research. He also provides overall management and implementation of research protocols and proper maintenance of university property under the research program. Many people at the research center have greatly benefited from his vast experience.

Keli Yungeberg, *Senior Administrative Specialist, 4-H Youth Development*

Keli Yungeberg drives toward excellence in operations related to the Department of 4-H Youth Development and K-State Research and Extension. She is always two steps ahead, trying to smooth the way and make things easier for staff and volunteers.

In 2015, Keli took on greater responsibility for reviewing and managing grant proposals, submissions, and grant budgets for the department; coordinating portions of the volunteer screening process; and assisting with search committees.

Much of Keli's work requires sensitivity and confidentiality, and she manages it all in an efficient and ethical manner. She deserves recognition this year in particular because through it all she has maintained a positive outlook, a sense of humor, and a professional demeanor.

Departmental University Support Staff Employees of the Year

Sherry Figge, *Office Supervisor, Entomology*

Sherry Figge provides support for all accounting and oversees office functions for the Department of Entomology. She is a committed and loyal member of the university community. Sherry is highly skilled at her position, largely because she's constantly looking for ways to improve. She models what she expects from others – integrity and honesty, hard and efficient work, constant improvement, commitment to job excellence, and people building.

She has high expectations of others, but none higher than for herself. Her commitment to the university, her keen sense of ethics and accountability for university resources, her commitment to people in entomology and their success, her outstanding interpersonal skills, and her active efforts to grow professionally and personally make her an exceptional member of the university community.

Michelle Gieber, *Accountant I, Extension Operations*

Michelle Gieber administers, monitors, and reconciles more than 20 state and federal teaching, research, restricted fee, grant, and foundation accounts for Extension Administration, Extension Family and Consumer Sciences, Planning and Reporting, Extension Operations, Program Focus Teams, and multistate and cooperative grants and sub-awards. At one time, most of her responsibilities focused within Extension Administration. The scope of her job has increased. She now supports faculty and departments located in Umberger Hall as well as departments across campus and at K-State Olathe.

She oversees the ordering, distribution, and sale of the extension fleet, which includes 69 vehicles in three colleges, 17 departments (five off-campus), and one research-extension center. She is also the primary resource for vehicle selection as well as advising departments regarding warranties, repairs, accidents, and other issues.

Mandy Wilson, *Public Service Administrator I, Communications and Agricultural Education*

Mandy Wilson has direct contact with all the local unit offices as well as many campus departments. Her exceptional customer service has made the Bookstore and Mail Center a hub of activity and a place folks “go to” for answers. She listens to clients and always works to find a resolution that meets the customer’s needs.

She is an effective supervisor and excellent team player. Under her leadership, most orders are processed and shipped with 24 to 48 hours. She also visits with agents at annual conference and new agent training and gives tours of the Bookstore and Mail Center to local office support staff.

Mandy is positive and friendly and has the ability to make adjustments as circumstances change. She doesn’t shy away from responsibility and is continually looking for ways to better those around her. Mandy also chairs and serves on various department committees.

K-State University Support Staff Award of Excellence

Christy Dipman, *Administrative Officer, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Christy Dipman assists faculty who work with diverse horticultural stakeholders across the state. She consistently performs at the highest level and is a huge asset to K-State Research and Extension.

Each year Christy helps setup and run numerous educational meetings across the state. She keeps everything on time from initial planning through paying the bills. Faculty and attendees praise her efficiency and amazing people skills. Christy truly is the foundation behind the success of many extension conferences. On the first day of a conference or field day, she handles the registration desk – greeting attendees and setting the tone for a positive meeting.

On a day-to-day basis, she provides support for extension, teaching, and research by managing websites, mailing lists, newsletters, publications, bookkeeping, and on and on. Many faculty have said, “I can’t imagine doing my job successfully without Christy!”

President’s Award of Excellence for Unclassified Professionals

Tim Carson, *Computer Information Specialist/Instructor, Animal Sciences and Industry*

Tim Carson is a key member of many teaching, research, and extension teams. He gives up his weekends to make sure registration, organization, and results tabulation run smoothly at every youth event. Tim is key to outreach events and other educational meetings that attract thousands of stakeholders, alumni, allied industry, and potential students to K-State.

Tim answers phone calls, texts, and emails at all hours to help faculty function at the highest level. He has the patience to answer detailed spreadsheet or database questions from high-end computer users or questions from less computer savvy users, such as how to print an attachment or to reset a password (for the fifth time).

He teaches a highly popular computer course for animal science majors, manages numerous content updates for websites, and coordinates upgrades and computer purchases for one of the largest departments on campus.

Gloria Holcombe, *Editor, Communications and Agricultural Education*

Gloria Holcombe organizes and carries out projects on behalf of K-State Research and Extension plus the College of Agriculture. Her major projects include semi-annual issues of the *K-State AgReport*, a 32-page, four-color magazine; the annual *Making a Difference* report for the Kansas Legislature; one-page monthly reports to President Schulz, and three-page features for the *K-Stater*. She also edits various newsletters for the Food Science Institute, the Diversity Program Office, and the Department of Communications and Agricultural Education. Her projects impact every county in Kansas and alumni in the U.S. and around the world.

Gloria has served on the annual conference committee since 1996, nine years on Faculty Senate, three years on the All-University Campaign, communications liaison for the Horticulture PFT, and various committees. She manages to do all she does by networking, being extremely organized, asking for cooperation and assistance, exhibiting exceeding politeness, and leading by example.

National Extension Leadership Development, North Central Program

(Class XXI, 2015)

The North Central National Extension Leadership Development program or NELD is designed to provide current and future extension leaders and administrators an opportunity to learn new leadership concepts, build their leadership capacity, and broaden understanding of extension on a national level. NELD programming consists of four sessions held throughout the United States, including one international cultural immersion.

Nozella L. Brown, *Extension Agent, Wyandotte County*

Nozella Brown serves as a family and consumer sciences agent with program emphasis in nutrition and wellness for underserved diverse audiences. Her primary responsibilities include coordinating the county Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and working with coalitions and collaborations to reduce barriers to healthy food options.

Nozella says, "NELD not only provided an abundance of information about leadership, it offered a variety of opportunities to practice skills and competencies that benefitted me professionally and personally."

Lisa Newman, *Extension Agent, Central Kansas District*

As a family and child development agent, Lisa Newman provides programming for residents in Saline and Ottawa counties. Programming passions include early childhood education efforts and focusing on collaborative approaches to reduce childhood poverty.

"I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to participate in the NELD program," says Lisa. "It's a game changer. I left the program with a newly found purpose and passion for leadership, places, and people."

Communicator of the Year Award

Erick De Wolf, *Professor and Interim Department Head, Plant Pathology*

Erick De Wolf is being recognized as the 2015 Communicator of the Year for a number of reasons, including the outstanding projects he has initiated, including *Wheat Disease Identification*, which has been ordered by 21 states and one Canadian province.

This year, he responded quickly to the appearance of flag smut in Kansas wheat by producing a new publication and being interviewed on Agriculture Today. With any project, he is involved at each step and helps ensure that the publication process goes smoothly and all costs are covered. In addition, he does an outstanding job of promoting his publications and sharing his expertise with the public.

Kansas PRIDE Partner Award

David Key, *District Director, Meadowlark District*

This annual award goes to a K-State Research and Extension employee who provides exemplary support to Kansas PRIDE communities. David Key knows the issues, struggles, and unique assets of each community and is able to bring the right resources together to help make a change in the communities he serves.

He has provided resources and guidance for many community improvement groups, including the local PRIDE organizations of Delia, Goff, Meriden, Perry, and Wetmore.

Perry PRIDE honors David with this message, "David has been there as a resource to Perry Pride from the very start, and we are very appreciative of his support for our organization and community. Congratulations and well deserved David!"

Katey Walker Extension Development Fund

Rebecca McFarland, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*

Rebecca McFarland is recognized for the “Early Childhood Social Emotional Skill Development Project” in the Frontier District. This project will target preschool children (4 and 5 years of age) and their parents/caregivers. A series of sessions on general feelings, angry or mad feelings, friendship skills, and problem solving will be presented in the classroom. Adults will take home a newsletter with information about how the parent/caregiver can help the child develop the specific social or emotional skill taught that day.

Research shows that children with a strong foundation in emotional literacy tolerate frustrations better, get into fewer fights, engage in less destructive behavior, are healthier, less lonely, less impulsive, are more focused, and have greater academic achievement.

Erin Yelland, *Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist*

Erin Yelland received a Katey Walker award for her project, “Know the 10 Signs: Early Detection Matters.” Erin will collaborate with the Alzheimer’s Association – Heart of America Chapter to access nationally renowned, evidence-based curriculum. This partnership will provide education, outreach, and resources on Alzheimer’s disease and its symptoms to every Kansas county.

Objectives include rising rates of early detection for Alzheimer’s disease among Kansans; increasing positive individual and familial adaptations to the disease, maintaining a greater degree of independence for early-stage Alzheimer’s sufferers; reducing informal caregiving hours through prolonged independence; and growing the number of Kansans receiving the maximum benefit from Alzheimer’s medications, therapies, and drug trials.

Farm Bill Education Team

Allen Baker, *Extension Agent, Wichita County*

Lori Bammerlin, *Extension Agent, Flint Hills District*

Art Barnaby, *Professor, Agricultural Economics*

R. Scott (Bronc) Barrows, *Extension Agent, Golden Prairie District*

Crystal Bashford, *Extension Agent, Morton County*

John Beckman, *Extension Agent, Scott County*

Dana Belshe, *Extension Agent, Sunflower District*

Shannon Blocker, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*

Alicia Boor, *Extension Agent, Barton County*

Rachael Boyle, *Extension Agent, Phillips-Rooks District*

Michelle Buchanan, *Extension Agent, Midway District*

Andrea Burns, *Extension Agent, Ford County*

Darren Busick, *Extension Agent, Reno County*

Stacy Campbell, *Extension Agent, Ellis County*

Jenni Carr, *Extension Agent, Harper County*

Neil Cates, *Extension Agent, Post Rock District*

Josh Coltrain, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District*

Marty Fear, *Extension Agent, Sunflower District*

Richard Fechter, *Extension Agent, Rolling Prairie District*

Will Feldkamp, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA), Beloit*

Ryan Flaming, *Extension Agent, Harvey County*

Jeri Geren, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District*

Marty Gleason, *Extension Agent, Edwards County*

David Hallauer, *Extension Agent, Meadowlark District*

Bill Haney, *Extension Agent, Kearny County*

Trenton Hargrave, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Abilene*

Kylee Harrison, *Extension Agent, Seward County*

Travis Heiman, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Hiawatha*

Randy Hein, *Extension Agent, Sumner County*

Dale Helwig, *Extension Agent, Cherokee County*

Darl Henson, *Extension Agent, Coffey County*

Kevin Herbel, *KFMA Program Administrator, Agricultural Economics*

Darren Hibdon, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*
Mike Holder, *Extension Agent, Flint Hills District*
James Huschka, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Ottawa*
Jonie James, *Extension Agent, McPherson County*
Anastasia Johnson, *Extension Agent, Marshall County*
Jeanne Falk Jones, *Multicounty Specialist, Northwest Area*
David Kehler, *Extension Agent, Butler County*
Bob Kohman, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Abilene*
Ray Ladd, *Extension Agent, Atchison County*
Kim Larson, *Extension Agent, River Valley District*
Joe Leibbrandt, *Extension Agent, Grant County*
Rich Llewelyn, *Extension Assistant, Agricultural Economics*
Tim Marshall, *Extension Agent, Barber County*
Tom Maxwell, *Extension Agent, Central Kansas District*
Kara Mayer, *Extension Agent, Wabaunsee County*
Greg McClure, *Extension Agent, Riley County*
Cody Miller, *Extension Agent, Phillips-Rooks District*
Rick Miller, *Extension Agent, Johnson County*
Clint Milliman, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Colby*
Tressie Mitzner, *Extension Agent, Graham County*
Josh Morris, *Extension Agent, Stevens County*
Sandy Myers, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Dodge City*
Cheri Nelsen, *Extension Agent, Wilson County*
Carla Nemecek, *Extension Agent, Southwind District*
Glenn Newdigger, *Extension Agent, Stafford County*
Lacey Noterman, *Extension Agent, Haskell County*
Dan O'Brien, *Extension Ag Economist, Northwest Area*
Chuck Otte, *Extension Agent, Geary County*
Michael Owen, *Extension Agent, Kingman County*
Jared Petersilie, *Extension Agent, Walnut Creek District*
Chris Petty, *Extension Agent, Southwind District*
Mark Ploger, *Extension Agent, Pratt County*
Brian Rees, *Extension Agent, Lyon County*

Robin Reid, *Extension Associate, Agricultural Economics*
David Rempe, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Abilene*
Jake Renner, *Extension Agent, Kingman County*
Rickey Roberts, *Extension Agent, Marion County*
Leroy Russell, *Extension Agent, Shawnee County*
Rod Schaub, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*
Todd Schmidt, *Extension Agent, Greeley County*
Austin Sexten, *Extension Agent, Pottawatomie County*
Kurt Sexton, *Extension Agent, Thomas County*
Zach Simon, *Extension Agent, Sedgwick County*
Clay Simons, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Council Grove*
Barrett Smith, *Extension Agent, Kiowa County*
Elly Sneath, *Extension Agent, Meade County*
Jordan Steele, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Colby*
Doug Stucky, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Dodge City*
Mykel Taylor, *Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics*
Keith VanSike, *Extension Agent, Twin Creeks District*
Megan Westerhold, *Extension Agent, Marais des Cygnes District*
Sandra Wick, *Extension Agent, Post Rock District*
Charles Wilken, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Chanute*
Jeff Wilson, *Extension Agent, Stanton County*
Mark Wood, *Extension Ag Economist, Kansas Farm Management Association, Colby*
Matt Young, *Extension Agent, Brown County*
Jill Zimmerman, *Extension Agent, Cowley County*

The 2014 Farm Bill was one of the most complicated farm bills ever written, and it presented producers with numerous decisions that would impact their operations for five years. The bill also presented an opportunity for K-State Research and Extension to show its relevance by providing educational programs and one-on-one consultations to guide producers making important decisions.

Traditionally, agricultural economics faculty conduct farm bill education by making many trips across Kansas to speak at numerous county meetings. The complexities of the 2014 bill called for a higher level of education, more than the department alone could handle. Agents said they would be willing to help and participated in a day long “train the trainer” event in October 2014.

In total, agents and Kansas Farm Management Association economists held 179 meetings with 11,256 producers attending between mid-October and the end of March. Eighty seven percent of attendees ranked these meetings as “valuable” or “very valuable.”

Program Development Committee Task Force Team

Linda Beech, *Extension Agent, Ellis County*

Laurie Chandler, *Associate Program Leader, Administration*

Dale Fjell, *Area Director, Northeast Area*

Carl Garten, *Extension Agent, Central Kansas District*

Gregg Hadley, *Assistant Director, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Community Development*

David Hallauer, *Extension Agent, Meadowlark District*

Jeanne Falk Jones, *Multicounty Specialist, Northwest Area*

Rebecca McMahon, *Extension Agent, Sedgwick County*

Chris Onstad, *Area Director, Northwest Area*

Kaitlyn Peine, *Extension Agent, Douglas County*

Margaret Phillips, *Associate Program Leader, Retired*

Gayle Price, *Extension Specialist, Southeast Area*

Trudy Rice, *Extension Associate, Community Vitality*

Fran Richmond, *Extension Agent, Frontier District*

Stacey Warner, *Leader, Extension Operations*

Kansas extension law requires Program Development Committees comprised of community residents who work with agents to identify local issues that can be addressed by extension programming.

The PDC Task Force was established in 2013 to strengthen the effectiveness of extension programming through enhanced engagement of PDCs. The task force was directed to design a statewide effort to support agents and PDC members on their duties and the importance of their roles.

The task force began by conducting telephone surveys of 48 agents regarding their work with PDCs. The surveys indicated a need for training and resources for agents. Since 2013, the task force has led trainings at partnership meetings, annual conference, and five “Agents Engaging PDCs” workshops across the state.

In addition, the task force developed new resources and created a website for agents on recruiting and orientating members, holding effective meetings, increasing facilitation skills, assessing community needs, and communicating impact.

Healthy You: Workplace Wellness Recognition

First Year

Marshall County

Midway District

Second Year

Central Kansas District

Douglas County

Marais des Cygnes District

Meadowlark District – Oskaloosa Office

Northeast Area

Post Rock District

Pratt County

Wyandotte County

» FACULTY AWARDS

October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015

During the past year, faculty, staff, and friends of the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service have distinguished themselves in many ways. These awards were presented by organizations other than K-State Research and Extension. Congratulations to all of you.

Barbara Ames, *Extension Agent, Wildcat District, First, Central Region, Communications Award: Educational Technology, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Andrew Barkley, *Professor, Agricultural Economics, Professorial Performance Award, Kansas State University; Faculty of the Month, Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority; Outstanding Faculty Award, Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society*

Art Barnaby, *Professor, Agricultural Economics, Outstanding Extension Program in Agricultural Economics Award, Western Agricultural Economics Association*

Phil Barnes, *Associate Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Larry E. and Laurel Erickson Public Service Award, K-State College of Engineering*

Ginny Barnard, *Extension Agent, Riley County, Early Career Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Linda Beech, *Extension Agent, Ellis County, First, Central Region and First, National, Communications Award: Written Press Releases; Third, Central Region, TV/Video Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences; Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Jason Bergtold, *Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics, Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Kansas State University; Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award for Instructors with less than ten years experience, Western Agricultural Economics Association*

Marie Blythe, *Coordinator, Extension Administration, Meritorious Service – State Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Debra Bolton, *Extension Specialist, Southwest Area, Diversity/Multicultural – Individual Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Jennifer Bormann, *Associate Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award, K-State College of Agriculture*

Cheryl Boyer, *Associate Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, John E. Hutchinson Extension Award for Young Professionals, American Society for Horticultural Sciences*

Brian Briggeman, *Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics, Distinguished Teaching Award with less than ten years experience, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association; Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Students in Research, Kansas State University*

Nozella Brown, *Extension Agent, Wyandotte County, First, Central Region and Second, National, Program Excellence Through Research Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, *Extension Agent, Sedgwick County, Mary W. Wells Diversity Award, Kansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Mark Casada, *Adjunct Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, 2015 Kansas Section ASABE Member-of-the-Year Award, Kansas Section, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers*

Laurie Chandler, *Associate Program Leader, Extension Administration, Administrative Leadership Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Ignacio Ciampitti, *Assistant Professor, Agronomy, 2015 Early Career Award, Gamma Sigma Delta*

Libby Curry, *Extension Specialist, Northwest Area, Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Greg Davis, *Associate Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Educator of the Year, Academic Education Foundation – PLANET; Faculty of the Semester, K-State College of Agriculture*

Hulya Dogan, *Ross Endowed Associate Professor, Grain Science and Industry, Outstanding Teaching Award, Gamma Sigma Delta*

Dan Donnert, *Photographer, Communications and Agricultural Education, Unclassified Employee of the Year, Communications and Agricultural Education*

Kevin Donnelly, Professor, Agronomy, Professor of the Week, Faculty Senate/K-State Athletics Department

Beth Drescher, Extension Agent, Sedgwick County, Friend of Agriculture, Sedgwick County Farm Bureau

Jason Ellis, Associate Professor, Communications and Agricultural Education, 40 under 40 in Agriculture Awards, Vance Publishing Corporation

Jaymelynn Farney, Extension Specialist, Southeast Area, Horizon – Area Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Allen Featherstone, Professor and Department Head, Agricultural Economics, Fulbright Specialist, Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

Patricia Gerhardt, Extension Agent, River Valley, Third, Written Press Release, Kansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Diann Gerstner, Extension Agent, Thomas County, Distinguished Service Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences; Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Kelly Getty, Associate Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Honorary Kansas FFA Degree, Kansas State FFA

Sherry Haar, Professor, Apparel, Textiles, and Interior Design, Best Marketable Textile Design for Ebb and Flow, ATEXINC

Jamie Hancock, Extension Agent, Shawnee County, Achievement Award, National Association of County Agricultural Agents; Search for Excellence Award, Kansas Association of County Agricultural Agents; Visionary Leadership Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Mei He, Assistant Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Academic Excellence Award, Kansas State University

Nathan Hendricks, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, Early Career Professional Leadership Award, Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics/Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (C-FARE/AAEA); Emerging Scholar Award, Southern Agricultural Economics Association

Jared Hoyle, Assistant Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Horizon – State Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Melvin Hunt, Professor Emeritus, Animal Sciences and Industry, Hall of Fame Inductee, Meat Industry Hall of Fame

Stacy Hutchinson, Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Myers-Alford Memorial Teaching Award, K-State College of Engineering

Doug Jardine, Professor, Plant Pathology, Distinguished Service Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Cassandra Jones, Assistant Professor, Grain Science and Industry, Members of the Year, American Feed Industry Association Committee

Steve Keeley, Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Faculty of the Semester, K-State College of Agriculture

Isaya Kisekka, Assistant Professor, Southwest Research-Extension Center, Blue Ribbon Award for Educational Aids, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers

D. Elizabeth Kiss, Associate Professor, Family Studies and Human Services, Faculty Extension Excellence Award, K-State College of Human Ecology

Donna Krug, Extension Agent, Barton County, First, Central Region and First, National, Communications Award: Educational Publication, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences; Community Partnership Award, Kansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Freddie Lamm, Professor, Northwest Research-Extension Center, Fellow Award and Blue Ribbon Award for Standards Development and Educational Aids, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers

Brian Lindshield, Associate Professor, Human Nutrition, Top 40 Most Cited Article 2011–2013, Nutrition and Cancer

Rich Llewelyn, Extension Assistant, Agricultural Economics, Outstanding Extension Program in Agricultural Economics Award, Western Agricultural Economics Association

Amy Lorenzen, Extension Agent, Golden Prairie District, Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

MAB Faculty, Agricultural Economics, Mature Program Award for the Master of Agribusiness, University Professional and Continuing Education Central Association

Ronaldo Maghirang, Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Robert R. and Lila L. Snell Distinguished Career Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and James L. Hollis Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, K-State College of Engineering

Jim Marsden, Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Hall of Fame Inductee, Meat Industry Hall of Fame

Brian McCornack, Associate Professor, Entomology, Award of Excellence in Integrated Pest Management, North Central Branch, Entomological Society of America

Christine McPheter, Extension Agent, Meade County, Distinguished Service Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Candis Meerpohl, Extension Agent, Shawnee County, Topeka 20 Under 40 Award, Boy Scouts of America; Graduate, Leadership Topeka, Topeka Chamber of Commerce

David Mengel, Professor, Agronomy, Distinguished Career Award, Gamma Sigma Delta

Chad Miller, Assistant Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Faculty of the Semester and Advisor of the Year, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Assessment of Student Learning, K-State College of Agriculture; Big 12 Faculty Fellow Award, Kansas State University Provost Office; Outstanding Teacher, Gamma Sigma Delta

Lisa Newman, Extension Agent, Central Kansas District, Horizon – County/District, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Dave Nichols, Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, "50 Kansans You Should Know," Ingram's

Charlotte Shoup Olsen, Professor, Family Studies and Human Services, Career Impact Award, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Erin Petersilie, Extension Agent, Walnut Creek District, First Timers Award, Kansas Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Thomas Phillips, Professor, Entomology, Don Wilbur Endowed Professor in Stored Product Protection, Kansas State University Foundation

Vara Prasad, Professor, Agronomy, Fellow, American Society of Agronomy; Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award, K-State College of Agriculture

DeAnn Presley, Associate Professor, Agronomy, Young Scholar Award, Soil and Water Management Division, Soil Science Society of America

Rebecca Reid, Extension Agent, Cowley County, Second, Central Regional, Social Networking Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Robin Reid, Extension Associate, Agricultural Economics, Outstanding Extension Program in Agricultural Economics Award, Western Agricultural Economics Association

Deanna Retzlaff, Assistant Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Outstanding Advising Award, Gamma Sigma Delta; Outstanding Advisor Award, K-State Global Campus

Dorith Rotenberg, Research Associate Professor, Plant Pathology, University Distinguished Faculty Award for Mentoring of Undergraduate Students in Research

Dorivar Ruiz-Diaz, Associate Professor, Agronomy, Excellence in Extension Award, Gamma Sigma Delta; Early Career Award, Soil Science Society of America

Ethel Schneweis, Extension Agent, Ford County, Mid-Career Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Anna Schremmer, Extension Agent, Phillips-Rooks District, Distinguished Team and Horizon – County/District Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Bryan Schurle, Professor, Agricultural Economics, David J. Mugler Outstanding Teaching Award, K-State College of Agriculture

Karen Shepard, Extension Agent, Graham County, Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Lucas Shivers, Director of Elementary Education, USD 383 Manhattan/Ogden School District, Friend of Extension, Epsilon Sigma Phi

Julianne Shoup, *Extension Agent, Twin Creeks District, Distinguished Team Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

C. Michael Smith, *Professor, Entomology, Fellow Award, American Association for the Advancement of Science*

Jeffrey S. Stevenson, *Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Fellow Award, American Dairy Science Association*

Mary Sullivan, *Extension Agent, Grant County, Continued Excellence Award, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Denise Sullivan, *Extension Agent, Leavenworth County, Second, Central Regional, Communications Award: Written Press Releases, National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences*

Mykel R. Taylor, *Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, Outstanding Extension Program in Agricultural Economics Award, Western Agricultural Economics Association; Trust Scholarship Award and AAEE Young Professional Exchange Program Heading South Award, Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society*

Curtis Thompson, *Professor, Agronomy, Fellow, American Society of Agronomy*

Mike Tokach, *University Distinguished Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, AFIA Award in Nonruminant Nutrition Research, American Feed Industry Association*

Glynn Tonsor, *Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics, Outstanding Extension Program Award, Individual, Southern Agricultural Economics Association*

John Unruh, *Professor, Animal Sciences and Industry, Outstanding Achievement in Student Learning Assessment Award, K-State Assessment Showcase*

Barbara Valent, *University Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology, among top 24 North American most-cited authors in Plant Physiology and The Plant Cell, 2009–2013*

Donghai Wang, *Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Frankenhoff Outstanding Research Award, K-State College of Engineering*

Ruth Welti, *University Distinguished Professor of Biology, among top 24 North American most-cited authors in Plant Physiology and The Plant Cell, 2009–2013*

Sandra Wick, *Extension Agent, Post Rock District, Meritorious Service – County/District Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Lisa Wilken, *Assistant Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Young Member-of-the-Year Award, Kansas Section, American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers; Presidential Citation for Service, Institute of Biological Engineering; Outstanding Assistant Professor Award and Dean's Award of Excellence for Service, K-State College of Engineering*

Kim Williams, *Professor, Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources, Outstanding Education Publication Award, American Society for Horticultural Sciences*

Christine Wilson, *Professor, Agricultural Economics, Executive Leadership Development Program Graduate, Food Systems Leadership Institutes, Association of Public Land-grant Universities; Faculty of the Semester Award, K-State College of Agriculture*

Jennifer Wilson, *Extension Agent, Riley County, Meritorious Service – County/District Award, Epsilon Sigma Phi*

Naiqian Zhang, *Professor, Biological and Agricultural Engineering, SPOTLIGHT K-State, Kansas State University*

Kun Yan Zhu, *Professor, Entomology, Commerce Bank Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award, Kansas State University*

» FACULTY MENTORS

October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015

Deb Andres, *Geary County*

Gina Aurand, *River Valley District*

Allen Baker, *Wichita County*

Charles Barden, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Cheryl Boyer, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Dale Bremer, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Andrea Burns, *Ford County*

Ted Cable, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Greg Davis, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Robin Deines, *Walnut Creek District*

Robin Eubank, *Barber County*

Rhonda Gordon, *Lyon County*

Jason Griffin, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Jamie Hancock, *Shawnee County*

Jonie James, *McPherson County*

Steve Keeley, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Cathie Lavis, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Kara Mayer, *Wabaunsee County*

Brian McCornack, *Entomology*

Kathy McEwan, *Southwind District*

Ross Mosteller, *Meadowlark District*

Lacey Noterman, *Haskell County*

Chuck Otte, *Geary County*

Brian Rees, *Lyon County*

Cary Rivard, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Anthony Ruiz, *Central Kansas District*

Leroy Russell, *Shawnee County*

Candice Shoemaker, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Phil Stahlman, *Agricultural Research Center-Hays*

Jan Steen, *Reno County*

Jennifer Wilson, *Riley County*

Kim Williams, *Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

Andrea Wood, *Kingman County*

Knowledge for Life

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A link to the online evaluation form will be emailed to conference participants.

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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