

## PRESS RELEASE

# FAITH HAGELBERGER NAMED 2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio— Faith N. Hagelberger of Minster, Ohio, has been named a 2023 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES and honors top graduating seniors on the Ohio State Columbus campus,” said Ann Christy, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs. “The 25 award recipients exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership.”

Hagelberger is an animal sciences major with an animal biosciences specialization in the Department of Animal Sciences. She was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

For the first-generation college student, her many work experiences set her apart from others. “Starting my freshman year, I began working on our university dairy farm, Waterman Dairy. I was a farmhand and milking parlor attendant for about a year and a half,” she said. “My sophomore year, I worked at Ohio State’s College of Veterinary Medicine Department of Preventative Medicine in its applied parasitology lab while maintaining my position at Waterman.”

The Auglaize County resident then interned for STgenetics’ Ohio Heifer Center in South Charleston, Ohio. As a maternity department attendant, she was exposed to difficult labors, neonatal calf care, vaccinations, total protein collection and analysis, colostrum management, surgery, etc.

She also worked at STgenetics as a veterinary assistant and occasional laboratory assistant for the next two years. “Working there, I’ve been exposed to many aspects of the dairy industry that I otherwise would not have known,” she said. “It has had a huge impact on my projected career path.”

Despite her full-time workload, Hagelberger remained heavily involved on campus through Food Animal Club, Buckeye Dairy Club, the Animal Science Community Alliance, and the Collegiate Dairy Challenge where she placed in the top three at state and regional competitions.

The Dairy Challenge team also provided her with her greatest sense of accomplishment. “When I began my undergrad career, I knew very little about the dairy industry and consultation. Being part of this team has pushed me incredibly far out of my comfort zone,” she said. “I have adapted and learned so much that I even felt confident enough in my abilities to be a mentor for new members.”

Hagelberger also dedicated hours of her time recruiting high school seniors, providing tours of campus, sending emails and making phone calls, writing postcards, and participating in Zoom events to help sell Ohio State and CFAES.

Her Animal Sciences nominator wrote, “Beyond our collegiate population, Faith has represented CFAES in Costa Rica as a volunteer veterinary assistant through the Vida Veterinary Services Program, serving underprivileged communities throughout Costa Rica. Closer to home, she led hands-on bi-weekly activities through the Cristo Rey Columbus High School Science Club. The opportunity to connect with the Columbus community to inspire a new generation of scientists has truly been a joy for Faith.”

After graduation, Hagelberger will attend the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine and focus on dairy production medicine and reproduction.

A reception for the Distinguished Senior Award recipients and their families was held on Wednesday, March 22, hosted by Ann Christy and Cathann A. Kress, vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. Meet the 25 outstanding students and learn more about each via a YouTube video release at [go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA](https://go.osu.edu/CFAES2023DSA).

In autumn 2022, there were 2,248 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing bachelor of science degrees in 22 majors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at [go.osu.edu/B4V2](https://go.osu.edu/B4V2).



## **Faith N. Hagelberger**

**MINSTER, OH**

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Photo available by sending a request to [flood.13@osu.edu](mailto:flood.13@osu.edu)

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#### **2023 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD**



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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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