

PRESS RELEASE

RYANNA L. TIETJE NAMED 2024 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ryanna L. Tietje of Deshler, Ohio, has been named a 2024 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 23 award recipients exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership.”

Tietje is an agribusiness and applied economics major in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics (AEDE). She was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

The Henry County native achieved a GPA above 3.9 while earning a spot on the dean’s list each semester. In addition, she challenged herself by completing the honors curriculum and research projects. Specifically, she researched the impacts of farm succession planning and developed a survey that was distributed to farmers across Ohio. Data analysis and trend identification provided a baseline for further research.

Tietje completed four summer internships with AgCredit, Findlay, Ohio; StoneX, Bowling Green, Ohio; Antolino & Associates, Columbus, Ohio; and CGB AgriFinancial, Louisville, Kentucky. She played various roles in internships including branch intern, a grain risk management intern, a financial planning intern, and a finance intern.

“Each of my internships allowed me to immerse myself in the vital work that is completed at each company, share my perspective with leaders while learning from them, and interact with clients,” said Tietje. “I gained exposure to agricultural operations across the country, visited clients in St. Louis, interacted daily with customers, and learned about the overall operations of the business.”

Her greatest sense of self-accomplishment came when she was selected from a competitive pool of North American undergraduate and graduate students to be one of six Cultivators at the Farm Foundation Round-Table where she presented her research.

Tietje’s extracurricular activities included officer positions in the Agribusiness Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau, and Agricultural Systems Management Club. She was a member of Alpha Zeta Partners honorary and served as a peer mentor for the CFAES honors program, helping 17 students from various majors transition to campus life.

She also was selected to participate in the Farm Credit Mid-America Scholars Program, MidAmerica Crop Life Association annual meeting, FFA New Century Farmer Conference, Women in Agribusiness Summit,

AgGateway Conference, Farm Foundation Round-Table meeting, and the Charles Schwab IMPACT Conference.

Upon graduation in May, Tietje will return to her family farm in northwest Ohio. “I will help my family transition the operation from one generation to the next and play an active role within the business,” she said. “Joining my two brothers, I will take responsibility of the finances, grain sales, landlord relations, and seed sales. I will likely also begin a career in grain risk management, agricultural lending, or farm business management.”

A reception for the Distinguished Senior Award recipients and their families was held on Thursday, April 4, hosted by Ann Christy and Cathann A. Kress, Ohio State vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. Meet the 23 outstanding students and learn more about each via a YouTube video release at go.osu.edu/CFAES2024DSA.

“Honoring the award recipients for their excellence will be a highlight for us this spring. These students have excelled and most certainly will continue to thrive in their future careers,” said Christy.

In autumn 2023, there were 2,224 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing Bachelor of Science degrees in 21 majors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at go.osu.edu/B4V2.



Ryanna L. Tietje

DESHLER, OH

Agribusiness and Applied Economics

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Photo available by sending a request to flood.13@osu.edu

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