



**MEGAN E. WHALIN**

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Animal Sciences - Animal Biosciences

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Megan is grateful for and proud of the opportunities she had to study abroad in Nicaragua, New Zealand, Spain, and Ireland. Megan had the opportunity to learn about diverse agricultural practices, such as coffee production and deer farming, and the impact of climate change and shifting resources on animal production. By comparing international animal industries, she has analyzed similar systems in the United States to appreciate and also critique various human and animal interactions.

Throughout her undergraduate career, Megan has worked with various organizations to promote food security. Through Buckeyes Against Hunger, Megan organized and delivered snack packs to Head Start programs in Columbus and provided nutrition education materials for their families. She also organized the provision of vegetable plants for their learning garden. Megan has worked to prepare a garden for a refugee community in Columbus through Students for Refugees. Megan volunteered at the Mid-Ohio Food Bank with Buckeye Dairy Club to support pantry visitors. Megan volunteers in OSU's on-campus food pantry (Buckeye Food Alliance) to provide food, including milk, meat, fruits, and vegetables to food insecure students. Megan has worked to restructure the BFA volunteer program, to allow BFA to utilize more effectively the great resource volunteers provide in order to reach more people and provide a better experience for students utilizing the pantry.

Included within Megan's academic accomplishments are: American Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Scholar Recognition | American Society of Animal Science | Dr. George R. Johnson Award | 2018 Newcomb Scholar Award | Dean's List.

Megan is proud of her work as a Student Leader with the Morrill Scholar Program. She became a mentor to encourage students to become involved with the promotion of diversity and inclusion on campus. As a mentor, Megan has worked with the Leadership Development team to develop "Voices of MSP," an MSP-wide event led by the first-year mentees in which student speakers presented a TED-style talk to share aspects of their experience with social justice, diversity and inclusion. The goal was to inspire other MSP members to also share their story and be involved on campus. As a part of the Academic Advancement team, Megan is leading another program in which upperclassmen Morrill Scholars can meet with first-years to discuss the ins and outs of their major, goals, and how they can integrate diversity and inclusion into their plans. The goal of the festival is to encourage fellowship and provide support for first-years.

Megan's plans after graduation are to attend The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in the fall of 2019, with an interest in ambulatory food animal medicine.

Megan chose Dr. Ana Grum as her mentor. Megan shares, "Dr. Ana Grum has served as my academic advisor at Ohio State, and has provided invaluable advice for courses to take, recommendations to take advantage of specific veterinary experiences, and support for my well-being throughout my undergraduate career. Her advice has been uniquely instrumental in supporting my efforts to prepare for my future in veterinary school and later in the profession."

