



CFAES

**2020 DISTINGUISHED
SENIOR AWARD
CELEBRATION**



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

150 1870
2020



MARCH 25, 2020 | FAWCETT EVENT CENTER

AWARD RECIPIENTS

ASAAD AHMAD

HANNAH MCKENZIE

MARY BUEHLER

LOUIS MEZZOPERA

JAMES CONSTANTINO

MEREDITH OGLESBY

KADY DAVIS

CALEB RYKACZEWSKI

SIMONE FISHEL

EMILIA SGAMBATI

JENNA FRYER

HAILEY SNYDER

KATIE GAREN

MARLEE STOLLAR

MEGAN GREGG

CALLIA TELLEZ

CALEB HICKMAN

REX TIETJE

MATTHEW KLOPFENSTEIN

LAUREN TRAPANI

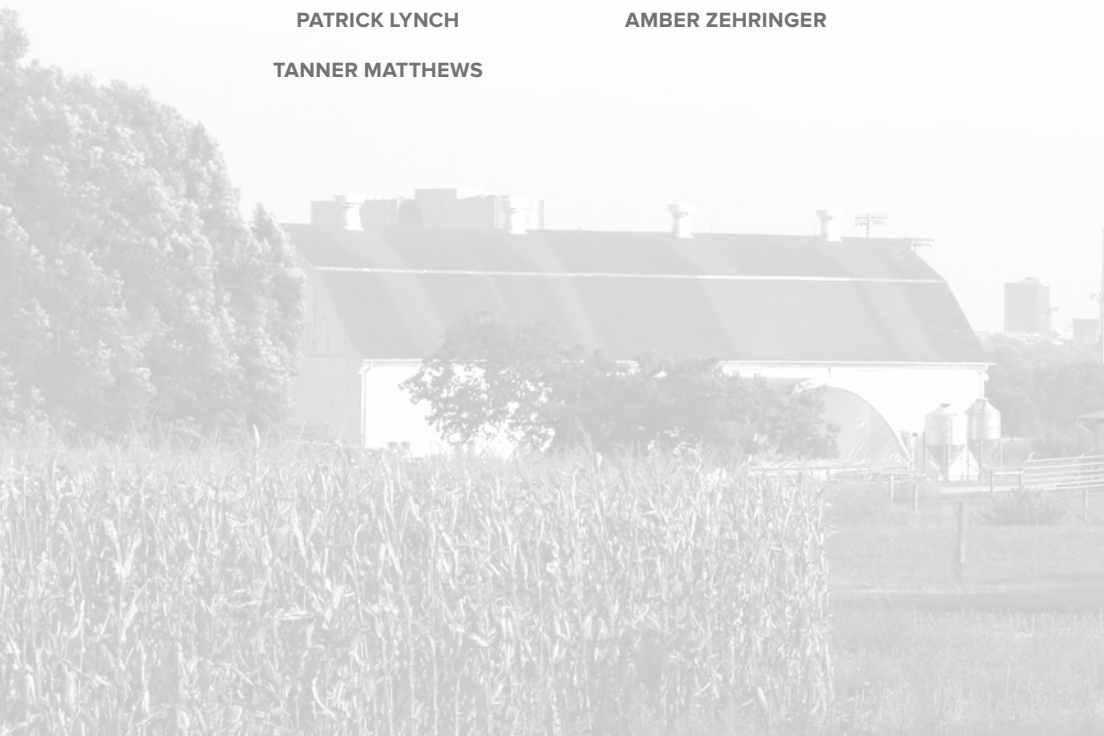
ISAAC KNOWLES

ROSE VAGEDES

PATRICK LYNCH

AMBER ZEHRINGER

TANNER MATTHEWS



2020 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD **PROGRAM**

5:00 p.m.

RECIPIENT POSTER SHOWCASE

6:00 p.m.

DINNER

7:00 p.m.

RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Closing with Carmen Ohio





CFAES

Distinguished Senior
Award



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

2020 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD SYNOPSIS

The Distinguished Senior Award honors academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). It is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES, recognizing our top graduating seniors each year from each of the academic units on the Columbus campus. The selected students' accomplishments and activities have benefited their communities, their academic unit, the college, the university, and/or their future profession.

The award honors students who exemplify the CFAES mission in areas such as academics and scholarship, research and innovation, service and involvement, and influence and leadership. Recipients are our future innovators and thinkers who have made an impact in and outside the classroom – those who inspire us with their passion, pursue opportunities, rise above challenges, and epitomize our core values: excellence, diversity and inclusion, and integrity.

Students must be a CFAES undergraduate major who will graduate in the Spring, Summer, or Autumn semester during the calendar year, with a strong academic record. Nominations are to include the student's examples of service, employment, involvement, research, and academics. Other considerations: notable achievements, unique challenges, overcoming adversity, growth as a person and as a professional, and/or meaningful impact(s) on the unit, university, or community. Instances of how the nominee's involvement has influenced their plans after graduation is also a consideration for this award.



CFAES

**2020 DISTINGUISHED
SENIOR AWARD**

**AWARD
PRESENTATION
&
RECOGNITION
CEREMONY**



MARCH 25, 2020 | FAWCETT EVENT CENTER



AMBER R. ZEHRINGER

GREENVILLE, OH

FOOD BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

After a 20-year break, Amber Zehringer restarted her formal education by completing two associate's degrees at Ivy Tech Community College in Kokomo, Indiana. This accomplishment launched her to her next goal, and she embarked upon a baccalaureate degree at The Ohio State University. At Ohio State, she found a community of like-minded peers – both traditional and non-traditional students – that supported one another

and bolstered Amber's success, affording her the opportunity to be a role model for other non-traditional students and her own family. When asked, Amber stated, "My greatest achievement has been showing my children that at any age they can set, change, and still obtain their goals in life."

While pursuing her degree, Amber has continued working professionally with positions at Equitas Health, the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation, and the university, where she supported the work of those organizations serving minority populations across Ohio. She completed an internship with Savor Safe Foods, putting her education and career skills to use while leading, coaching, and training a workforce in food safety. This internship helped to cultivate an exceptional understanding of the Ohio Uniform Food Safety Code, preparing her well for a career after graduation. Additionally, Amber has remained engaged in volunteer work and championing the successes of other women. She has provided her time and talents to organizations such as Dress for Success Columbus, the Professional Women's Group Columbus, and the Darby Creek Church of the Nazarene.

Amber has been a member of a number of organizations and has received the following academic honors, scholarships, and grants during her time at Ohio State: Altrusa Critical Difference for Women | Critical Difference for Women Scholarship | Critical Difference for Women Re-entry Scholarship | Dean's List | Dublin Women's Club | Jennings Memorial Fund | National Society of Leadership | Phi Sigma Theta Honor Society | President's Affordability Grant | Scarlet and Gray Grant | Soroptimist International | Staples Scholarship for Critical Difference for Women.

Amber identifies her most valuable learning experience has been the realization "that with patience and practice" she can accomplish anything. Although she found continuing her education at a large university like OSU intimidating at first, she not only stepped out of her comfort zone, but was able to create a support system and community where each of its members thrived by supporting one another in the face of challenges. Amber shares that her most rewarding experience while at Ohio State was exploring and having access to a wide breadth of subject matter through the Food Business Management program and her chosen electives.

Upon graduating, Amber will complete her Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian credential through the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA). This certification will enable her to pursue next steps to a career in public health.

Amber wishes to honor Dr. Mary Kay Pohlschneider, a lecturer in the Department of Food Science and Technology, as her mentor. She relied on Dr. Pohlschneider's excellent guidance and wisdom to navigate the university, foster her passions for food and business, and to clarify the direction for her education and post-graduation professional goals.



ROSE V. VAGEDES

COLDWATER, OH

SUSTAINABLE PLANT SYSTEMS

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

Early in Rose Vagedes' career at The Ohio State University, she was selected as one of 10 American Society of Agronomy Greenfield Scholars, an impactful opportunity that allowed her a chance to network with industry leaders, scholars, and government officials. She was able to attend multiple conferences, including the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America

International Annual Meeting, as well as the Indiana Certified Crop Adviser Program. She recalls that her selection as a Greenfield Scholar "was an extremely valuable learning experience, as well as my greatest feeling of accomplishment."

Rose was also able to work with the Metro Early College Middle School where she led an after-school agriculture club. She found this to be an enjoyable experience, sharing that "the continued enthusiasm expressed by the students is extremely rewarding, knowing that the long hours spent planning lessons, organizing field trips, and gathering supplies are worth the passion these students are developing for agriculture."

While at The Ohio State University, Rose has completed three internships amidst her academic work: the university's Agricultural Crop Research Experience in Ohio counties; agronomy sales for Helena Agri-Enterprises in Dillsboro, Indiana; and crop protection intern in Ohio and Michigan for Corteva Agriscience of Troy, Ohio. She chose these experiences specifically for their diversity across agriculture and was responsible for many account management and research duties, from client sales to collecting soil samples. Aside from her internships, she is employed as a research assistant to Dr. Alex Lindsey. In that role, Rose has gained invaluable, hands-on experience in conducting and maintaining experiments – skills she brought to her own undergraduate research.

Rose completed an undergraduate research project and not only presented her research at the 2019 American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and Soil Science Society of America International Annual Meeting, but also worked with the Departments of Horticulture and Crop Science and Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering to develop materials for a new course offered through her department, which was only made possible by the research she conducted.

Contributing to her community is important to Rose. She has volunteered her time in leadership positions with Ohio State's Crops and Soils Club and Agricultural Education Society. She has also been a vital representative of the university as a whole by serving as a host for the Experience OSU for a Day program and as a member of the OSU Women's Ultimate Frisbee team.

Rose received the following honors during her undergraduate career: American FFA Degree Recipient | American Society of Agronomy Greenfield Scholar | Dean's List | Wilhelm and Eleanor Beckert Scholarship.

Following graduation, Rose will be pursuing a Master of Science in Weed Science degree at Purdue University, with Dr. Bryan Young.

During her time at Ohio State, Rose worked with Dr. Alex Lindsey, who she has identified as her mentor. She first met him through the courses he taught and soon found a position as his research assistant. Rose credits him with encouraging her curiosity and influencing her decision to pursue graduate research.



LAUREN J. TRAPANI

OLD ORCHARD BEACH, ME

ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT, AND
SUSTAINABILITY - SUSTAINABILITY AND BUSINESS

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Lauren Trapani shares that her greatest sense of accomplishment during her undergraduate program stemmed from applying her education to practical, real-world problems. During her program's capstone course, she had the opportunity to work with the John Glenn Columbus International Airport to develop an energy efficiency proposal, which was presented to the airport's board of directors. In a similarly impactful experience with the Sustainability Industry Immersion program, she led a team to recommend opportunities for engineered carbon capture and carbon markets for a Chicago-based renewable energy company.

Lauren secured three internships during her time at The Ohio State University, all of which reflected and refined her interests in sustainability and business: a year-long position in corporate social responsibility with Vetta Brands in Columbus, Ohio; a sustainability and public affairs internship with L.L.Bean located in Freeport, Maine; and a farm intern position with Procter Center Farm in London, Ohio. Through her internships, she gained experience in communications at a global level, sustainability issues impacting the world, production agriculture, and urban farming.

In collaboration with three other undergraduate students, Lauren conducted an impressive research project on ecotourism in Guatemala. She presented results at the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Undergraduate Research Forum. Upon completion of that project, she assisted then PhD-candidate Corinne Bocci on her dissertation research, which focused on sustainably grown Ramon nuts by women's farmer collectives in rural Guatemala.

Serving as a Student Instructional Assistant allowed Lauren to help other students with their projects over the course of a semester. She found that helping students make connections between their interests and relevant, crucial sustainability topics was extremely rewarding, and she enjoyed serving as a resource and guide to newer SIAs in the class.

Lauren lists her four-year involvement with Net Impact OSU, a non-profit organization that partners with businesses on real-world sustainability initiatives, as her most valuable learning experience while at OSU. She has served in many roles with the OSU chapter, such as VP of National Programming, VP of Education, and Carbon Accounting project lead, in addition to contributing to the chapter's meetings, projects, and events. As someone who values service, Lauren also gave back to her home community in Maine and the local Columbus community through volunteer work at the Saco Meals Soup Kitchen, the Linden Miracle Garden, CFAES Experience OSU for a Day, and the OSU English Conversation Program.

Lauren has received the following academic honors, grants, and scholarships: Dean's List | Newcomb Scholar | Office of Environment and Energy Sustainability Scholarship | Office of International Affairs Grant | Outdoor Writers of Ohio Scholarship | Undergraduate Student Government Academic Enrichment Grant.

Lauren is exploring a career in energy, land/ecology preservation, or corporate sustainability. After experience in the workforce, she plans to pursue a Master of Business Administration degree.

Lauren identified Dr. Brian Lower and Ms. Ella Weaver as her mentors, with whom she worked closely as a Student Instructional Assistant for seven semesters. She fostered a close relationship with these two role models in her field and says she cannot imagine her undergraduate experience without their consistent support.



REX J.R. TIETJE

DESHLER, OH

AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

The Agricultural Systems Management Club was awarded the CFAES Student Organization of the Year award for the culmination of accomplishments and service projects in the 2018-2019 academic year, and as its president Rex Tietje felt a tremendous sense of accomplishment. Rex identifies his term as the club's president as his most rewarding and enjoyable experience as an

undergraduate; he especially appreciated working closely with fellow members to contribute to the club's success. Rex has served in multiple officer roles in the Agricultural Systems Management Club as well as maintained active involvement with the CFAES Student Council. Rex was also a member of the Crops and Soils Club.

During two internships with Ohio at Legacy Farmers Cooperative and Redline Equipment, Rex was able to gain valuable experience related to his interests in agronomy, precision farming, customer relationships, and other specialty areas which will continue to support him professionally in the future.

In addition to his studies and extracurricular involvement, in 2018 Rex teamed up with his brother to establish a Beck's Hybrids seed dealership business, Buckeye Advanced Ag, LLC. He admits that operating the dealership in Deshler while also attending classes in Columbus had its challenges, but it was the most valuable learning experience during his undergraduate period. The launch and operation of this business provided a unique perspective on his education, as it allowed him "...to apply what I was learning in class to scenarios that were happening in the dealership simultaneously."

While engaged for the last two years in the FABI Precision Agriculture research, Rex participated in data collection efforts on the research group's trials. He has enjoyed working on this research and is appreciative of the support from Mr. Andrew Klopfenstein, who leads these projects.

During Rex's time at Ohio State, he was awarded the following honors and recognition: Dean's List | Edward S. "Beanie" Drake Student Leader Endowment Fund Scholarship | Ohio Soybean Council Foundation Scholarship | The Ohio State University Provost Scholarship.

Following graduation, Rex plans to return to his family's farm to apply everything he has learned to its operation and growth. He will also continue to manage his seed dealership. He is grateful for the foundation provided by his education at The Ohio State University and knows that his desire to learn will benefit him long after graduation.

Rex has identified Dr. Dewey Mann and Mr. Ryan Tietje as his mentors. Dr. Mann, as the advisor of the Agricultural Systems Management Club, has consistently guided Rex in his officer responsibilities to the club, academics, and work. Rex appreciates Dr. Mann's willingness to go above and beyond to make sure all students that seek his help leave with the necessary tools to make a confident choice about a problem they face. Ryan Tietje is Rex's older brother and a Research Associate Engineer for the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering. Mr. Tietje has always been an influence in Rex's life, particularly as he has navigated the university, encouraging Rex to participate in student organizations and to maintain focus on his studies.



CALLIA A. TELLEZ

DAYTON, OH

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND DECISION MAKING –
INTERNATIONAL POLICY AND LAW

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Callia Tellez describes feeling her greatest sense of accomplishment when she was recognized as a Udall Foundation Scholar, a national acknowledgement of leadership, scholarship, and environmental advocacy. This recognition came from the culmination of hard work, service, connections, and research she had engaged in while an undergraduate student, from her

position at the Environmental and Social Sustainability Laboratory to her study abroad in Tanzania. She says, “the Udall scholarship allowed me to take what I have learned in my time as a Buckeye to connect with student leaders across the nation to face the most challenging issues of social injustice and environmental degradation that our society faces.”

Callia was deeply involved in research throughout her time at Ohio State, beginning as a freshman. Projects and activities ranged from performing administrative and logistical support, conducting research in the field, analyzing findings, surveying farmers, coordinating with stakeholders and the public, and then generating next steps to advance the research. Her research efforts will directly contribute to causes she cares deeply about, such as water quality in the Great Lakes region and the creation of an early warning system for harmful algal blooms. Her remarkable level of engagement provided her the opportunity to present her interdisciplinary research at the International Association for Great Lakes Research and Soil and Water Conservation Society International Annual Conferences, to the United States Army Corps of Engineers and Region 5 EPA offices. She is submitting her research for publication in an academic journal. Callia cites her involvement in research as the most valuable learning experience as an undergraduate.

Callia didn't stop with research, she maintained a commitment to environmental advocacy through involvement with several organizations, including the Ohio State Sierra Club Student Coalition. She moved from sustainability council representative to vice president and finally to president of the coalition. In her time as president, she advanced the coalition's focus on advocacy and outreach by coordinating public panels featuring subject area experts, as well as creating successful grant proposals to support the coalition's goals. She has also given back to her college by serving as a student ambassador for SENR.

Callia has been highlighted as a speaker at the university's 2019 Environmental Professionals Network Signature Event: Women in Conservation and Ohio State's 2020 Research and Innovation Showcase. In addition, she has received the following honors while at Ohio State: Bert W. Martin Fund Scholarship | Charles A. Dambach Memorial Fund Scholarship | Dean's List | Mervin G. Smith International Agriculture Fund Scholarship | The Heiligmann Scholarship | James A. and Mavis Fletcher Endowed Memorial Fund Scholarship | Joseph and Nina Mattus Agricultural Scholarship | Morrill Excellence Scholarship | Sultzbach Memorial Scholarship | 2019 Udall Foundation Scholar.

After graduation, Callia hopes to advocate for marginalized populations by way of state and federal policy-advisement through employment at a non-profit, as she simultaneously prepares to pursue an advanced degree.

Dr. Robyn Wilson is the individual Callia identified as her mentor. In addition to benefiting from her support and encouragement, Callia is inspired by Dr. Wilson's own commitments to leadership, altruism, scientific research, and political advocacy.



MARLEE E. STOLLAR

MARIETTA, OH

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

As a student passionate about agricultural communication, Marlee Stollar acknowledges that her participation in the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) student organization gave her the greatest sense of accomplishment during her four years at Ohio State. She found helping other students gain knowledge and skills through their ACT participation very gratifying, and was

proud of the outcome of ACT's partnership with Cultivating Change, another student organization, to offer programming focused on diversity and inclusion in food, agricultural, and environmental sciences.

Working as the Marketing and Communications Intern for Local Matters in Columbus, Marlee created and wrote social media content. She also interned with Dairy Farmers of America in Medina, Ohio, where as a Communications Intern she designed and created copy for flyers, postcards, and guides which were distributed to Cooperative members, customers, and employees. Marlee described how two additional internships provided her with valuable real-life application of the skills and knowledge she gained from her courses: a remote internship with You Inc. at WCBF 90.5 FM NPR radio, and a position with Congressman Bill Johnson's Marietta, Ohio District Office.

Currently working on her research distinction project thesis titled, "The Impact of Food Labels and Preconceptions on Ohio State Students' Food Buying Habits," Marlee plans to present her research at the CFAES Undergraduate Research Forum and the Ohio State Spring Undergraduate research festival. She appreciates the insights she has gained on the perceptions and opinions about food and agriculture revealed by her inquiry. She is excited to present her research findings and may continue to pursue research on a similar topic once in graduate school.

Marlee received numerous awards and honors during her time at Ohio State, including: Barrett Family Fund Scholarship | Broughton 4-H Scholarship | Mervin G. Smith Student and Faculty Fund in International Agriculture Scholarship | Lindsay Hill Memorial Scholarship | Leo Rummell Scholarship | Brown Family Scholarship | Ohio Corn and Wheat Scholarship | Reuwee Memorial Fund Scholarship | Bishop Family Scholarship | Earl and Wilma McMunn Agricultural Communication Scholarship | Ohio State Panhellenic Association Top Scholar | Towers Agricultural Honorary member | Ed Johnson Scholarship | Ohio Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association Scholarship | The Ohio State University Alumni Scholarship.

Her post-graduation plans include pursuing a master's degree in agricultural communication, and employment for an agriculture-related nonprofit or for Extension, where she hopes to contribute to community development and food security initiatives.

When recounting her participation in Alpha Zeta Partners and the associated education abroad trip to Brazil, Marlee lists the AZP program among her most rewarding and enjoyable experiences during her time at Ohio State. Through this program she broadened her perceptions by being exposed to various international agricultural and environmental operations, different cultures, and attending classes at ESALQ at the University of São Paulo.

Marlee wishes to recognize Dr. Annie Specht as her mentor. Dr. Specht has been a guiding voice throughout Marlee's program, particularly when seeking assistance with technical skills and as her research advisor. She admires and respects Dr. Specht's dedication and work ethic.



HAILEY A. SNYDER

BOARDMAN, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES – ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Hailey Snyder valued her time as a teaching assistant for a biosciences laboratory course, which she says fueled her passions for learning through teaching and the field of animal sciences. Her time in this position taught her how different people learn as well as honed her own leadership style.

Hailey names her acceptance into multiple veterinary programs as when she felt her greatest sense of achievement. Despite being told how difficult it is to gain acceptance into a veterinary program, she persevered and was successful. Hailey takes great pride in choosing The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

During her time at Ohio State, Hailey interned at the equine endocrinology laboratory in the College of Veterinary Medicine, where she assisted in allocating and organizing collected blood samples, recording data on foals in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, and performing several enzyme-linked immunoassays and radioimmunoassays to determine steroid hormone concentrations. She was also able to travel to Lexington, Kentucky to assist research at the Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital and Hagyard Equine Medical Institute.

Hailey has continued her own research independent from the laboratory where she interned, collecting blood samples to study testosterone and dihydrotestosterone in healthy, newborn foals that are hospitalized. She will be presenting her research at the Spring Undergraduate Research Festival and the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Research Forum in order to graduate with research distinction.

After concluding her internship, Hailey was able to transition to a part-time position at the equine endocrinology laboratory. She is also employed by the United States Equestrian Federation as a testing technician. She is contracted by equine veterinarians to assist in random drug testing of horses competing in USEF competitions.

Hailey noted that her most rewarding undergraduate experience was her volunteer work at 4 Paws for Ability. She raised and trained service dogs for children and veterans with disabilities and performed outreach to improve public opinion of service animals and those who utilize them. She began as a part-time sitter for a few dogs and was eventually able to foster her own dog, finally sending it off to Texas to aid a young boy.

Hailey contributed her time to multiple volunteer organizations. She was a competitive member of the Hunt Seat Equestrian Team, competing against other universities through the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, fundraising for her team, and hosting Interscholastic Equestrian Association shows for high school students. She was a Licking County Trap-Neuter-Return volunteer, monitoring anesthesia during operation, managing recovery out of anesthesia, and preparing vaccinations. Hailey was also a member of the Pre-Veterinary Medical Association as the technical services chair and program coordinator, helping manage the association.

After graduation, Hailey will begin her degree as she has been accepted into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree program through Ohio State's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Hailey has named Ms. Mariette Benage as her mentor. Ms. Benage has guided and advised Hailey throughout her undergraduate career and has had a great impact on the decisions Hailey has made leading up to this point.



EMILIA G. SGAMBATI

FARMINGTON HILLS, MI

ANIMAL SCIENCES – ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Emilia Sgambati recognizes that her most valuable learning experience during her college career was honing her time management skills, especially learning to allocate valuable time to rest and recharge.

Remarking upon her most enjoyable undergraduate experience, Emilia shared that she appreciated her internship during the spring semester of her sophomore year with The Ohio State University Equine Center as a reproductive intern. Before then, she had almost no exposure to horses.

Her internship with Ohio State's Equine Center allowed her to work closely with pregnant and open mares, breeding stallions, yearlings, and newborn foals. She was able to ultrasound open mares to determine best time to breed, and the statuses of mares after breeding or their fetuses. She was involved in every aspect of breeding and reproduction with the horses at the Center.

Emilia recognizes her honors research project as her greatest accomplishment. Her time working on the project under the guidance of Dr. Maurice Eastridge taught her quite a bit about the research process and having patience with her work.

Emilia's honors research project focused on Jersey calf nutrition. She studied alternating starch and fat percentages in calf starters to improve their growth rates over two years. In addition to her own research, she assisted multiple graduate students in a theriogenology laboratory with their projects, which ranged from reproducing mares to reproducing fish.

She has held several jobs alongside her academic career. She has been an office assistant at her residence hall, a summer camp counselor at Bowers Farm School, a student milker at the Waterman Dairy Farm, a student worker at the Equine Center, and a receptionist at the Banfield Forest Park Veterinary Clinic. Emilia recently celebrated her two-year anniversary at the clinic, a position she credits with her increased confidence and competence in the veterinary profession, and comfort interfacing with other people as a professional.

In addition to her studies, work, and research, Emilia volunteered her free time for Towers Agricultural Honorary, Experience Ohio State for a Day, Pre-Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Sciences Community Alliance, the Department of Animal Sciences, and Back 2 School Bash.

Emilia has received these honors and scholarships as she has pursued her education at Ohio State: Brakel Dairy Scholarship | Dean's List | Kottman Scholars Program Scholarship | Maximus and National Buckeye Scholarship | McMunn Scholarship | Ohio AgriBusiness Association Dairy Science Scholarship | Salisbury Scholarship | Sultzbach Memorial Scholarship | Undergraduate Research Scholarship.

Following graduation, Emilia plans to pursue a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine with a desire to work in large animal medicine focusing on dairy cattle.

Emilia would like to honor Dr. Maurice Eastridge as her mentor. Not only did Dr. Eastridge guide her through his own research project, but he became her honors research project advisor. She wants to acknowledge and thank him for the significant contributions he has made to her education and success.



CALEB RYKACZEWSKI

MENTOR, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES – ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

When asked what he viewed to be his most valuable learning experience at Ohio State, Caleb Rykaczewski named the personal growth and development he experienced as he transitioned from living at home during high school, to living in OSU housing, then to living on his own. He attributes this growth to the people who provided a sense of family and community while in Columbus. He

was grateful to have a group of friends he has been able to rely upon and mentors who have supported him as he has grown to become his best self.

Through an internship with Dr. Donn Griffith at Animal Medical and Emergency Hospital in Worthington, Ohio, Caleb not only acquired career skills and practical work experience, he also gained professional mentors and close personal friends. Another result of his internship was an employment opportunity, and he remained with the clinic until Dr. Griffith retired in October 2019.

While an undergraduate at Ohio State, Caleb has received the following academic recognition and honors: Dean's List | American Society of Animal Science Scholar | Durrell Memorial Scholarship | Gamma Sigma Delta Scholarship | Johnson Award for Animal Sciences | Romophos Sophomore Honorary.

Stating that his greatest sense of accomplishment as an undergraduate has stemmed from helping someone to learn something new or finish a long-term project, Caleb has appreciated the opportunity to serve as a teaching assistant. He has also found it rewarding to have facilitated the Cristo Rey High School Science Club, where he has been able to share his love of science with future budding scientists, and reflect on all the opportunities that exist in the fields of science and technology.

After graduation, Caleb plans to continue his education by pursuing a master's or doctoral degree in physiology and endocrinology of reproduction. This would enable him to continue his studies in developing on-animal sensors, technology that would contribute to the future of farming, precision livestock, and expand our current understanding of reproductive biology. He also has an interest in conservation research to develop reproductive technologies to preserve endangered species. Caleb has a passion for educating and hopes to one day work for an institution like Ohio State as a professor and researcher.

Caleb found it challenging to identify a single mentor, so he has named two educators in the Department of Animal Sciences who have aided him in his success. He wishes to acknowledge Ms. Mariette Benage and Dr. Alvaro Garcia Guerra with his deepest appreciation for everything that they have done for him to support his academic and personal development. Caleb has valued Dr. Garcia Guerra's support of his research activities as well as his generous advice and encouragement, which Caleb views as central to his successes in coursework and personal development. Caleb was inspired by Ms. Benage's hard work and dedication during his interactions with her as a student and service as a peer leader, and deeply values her genuine willingness to always make time for students.





MEREDITH M. OGLESBY

HILLSBORO, OH

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

Meredith Oglesby's most valuable undergraduate learning experience has been her involvement in the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT). Through this organization, Meredith volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House, donated to Tacos for Texas during Hurricane Harvey, and devoted time to other service projects. ACT has helped Meredith build on her

classroom learning by bringing that knowledge to life.

The experiences Meredith has found the most rewarding were her education abroad experiences. Meredith traveled to Nicaragua, Australia, Brazil, and England and Scotland. She loved learning about agriculture and the environment on a global scale.

Meredith is proud to be the editor for the AgriNaturalist magazine this year, a publication produced by senior agricultural communication students. It features engaging stories about agriculture and the CFAES community. Meredith conducted undergraduate research with Dr. Emily Buck, which focused on social media engagement rates. Meredith is currently working for the Sustainability Institute at Ohio State. She is also writing for Ohio's Country Journal & Ohio Ag Net as an Ohio FFA Reporter.

While interning with the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, Meredith provided communication support as the staff worked to advocate for increased funding for the Ohio budget. Meredith also interned with the Ohio AgriBusiness Association where she provided communication support and general office administration.

The recognition Meredith received as an undergraduate include: Dean's List | Alpha Zeta Partners Outstanding First Year Member | Alpha Zeta Partners Agricultural Honorary Member | Bucket and Dipper Junior Honorary Member | Farm Credit Mid-America Scholar | American FFA Degree | Distinguished Senior, Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership.

Meredith's extensive list of volunteering and community service activities include leadership roles and involvement with Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, serving as a CFAES Ambassador, as well as being a member of Alpha Zeta Partners. Meredith is also a member of the Young Ag Professionals with Ohio Farm Bureau, Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association, and the Ohio Cattlemen's Association. She has volunteered at the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and been a part of the CFAES Learning Community. Meredith has been a member of the CFAES Student Council and served on the CFAES Banquet Planning Committee. She served as the Ohio FFA State Vice President and represented Ohio FFA on the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Board.

Meredith has applied to the University of Florida, University of Georgia, and Kansas State University for graduate school. She is planning to study agricultural communication with a focus in food security and nonprofit studies.

Dr. Emily Buck has helped Meredith from her start at Ohio State, making her a perfect fit to be recognized as Meredith's mentor. Through the challenges of navigating a large university, to helping Meredith find her place within CFAES, Dr. Buck has encouraged and supported her. Dr. Buck always encouraged Meredith to take advantage of opportunities that would be both fun and beneficial in gaining agricultural communication skills. Meredith appreciates Dr. Buck's role as her academic advisor, as well as support as she traveled with her for ACT conferences and a spring break photography trip to England and Scotland.



LOUIS E. MEZZOPERA

CHARDON, OH

CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

One of the most valuable undergraduate learning experiences Louis Mezzopera had was the opportunity to be a part of the 2019 National Association of Home Builders student competition with OSU. The competition gave him a chance to apply skills learned in the classroom to a real-world example through completing a management project/proposal. Outside of just participating in a competition, he said attending the International Builders Show was an unforgettable learning experience.

For Louis, the most enjoyable and rewarding experience of his undergraduate career has been his involvement with the Student-Alumni Council (SAC). The Student-Alumni Council aims to enhance the connection between students past, present, and future by fostering a sense of community and instilling a lifelong commitment to one's alma mater. SAC has been a defining college experience for him, and before joining this organization, Louis struggled to find his place at Ohio State. Now Louis is certain that he is a Buckeye for life!

Louis has completed three internships related to his interest in construction with 3 Pillar Homes, Cleveland Construction, Inc., and Enzoco Custom Homes.

Louis worked as an undergraduate teaching assistant for three semesters before beginning his most recent internship, which served as his part-time job in addition to classes. This opportunity became one of the highlights of his Construction Systems Management degree program, as he tried to make this work more than just a job, but an opportunity to guide and mentor the younger CSM students. Louis feels one of the greatest assets to the CSM program is the opportunity to have a close relationship with the professors.

Through his involvement with the Mount Leadership Society Scholars Program, Louis has given hundreds of hours of service to OSU and Columbus through service events. The most significant opportunity Louis had was spending a full year of service with the Community Kitchen of Columbus, providing hot meals to the less fortunate 2-3 times per week.

Undergraduate honors bestowed on Louis included: Dean's List | OSU Provost Scholarship | CFAES Newcomb Scholar | Ohio Contractors Association Scholarship | SMPS Columbus Scholarship | Simpson Strong-Tie Scholarship.

After graduation, Louis plans to continue pursuing a career in the residential building sector. Somewhere down the road, he would like to be an entrepreneur and one day earn his MBA degree to enhance his business skillset.

Mr. Phil Sutton has made a significant impact on Louis' career at OSU. As his mentor, Mr. Sutton is one of the most genuine people he has ever met. Mr. Sutton invests deeply into his students' lives, and his passion for teaching and for life are always evident. Mr. Sutton has shared his time with Louis on numerous occasions, focusing on his future career path and where an entrepreneurial career may lead him. Louis shared that Mr. Sutton constantly encourages and pushes him to the best version of himself. Louis knows that he will always support him, being merely a phone call away after graduation.



HANNAH S. MCKENZIE

WESTERVILLE, OH

ENTOMOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

Hannah McKenzie's most valuable undergraduate learning experience was through one of her general education requirements. Hannah enrolled in a comparative studies class on global studies in science and technology. This course focused not on scientific knowledge itself, but rather how scientific knowledge is formed through unique and biased perspectives. Taking the class has aided Hannah to become a better scientist because she is able to acknowledge her inherent biases that shape her perspective.

Hannah completed an internship at the Museum of Biological Diversity, working specifically with the Triplehorn Insect Collection. It was because of this internship that Hannah was able to get involved with an undergraduate research project. Hannah worked with Dr. Norman Johnson on a research project about sex ratio variation in the parasitoid wasp *Pelecinus polyturator*. Prior to working on this project, she had no experience with working in a molecular lab or performing DNA analysis.

During Hannah's undergraduate career, she has run her own business as a piano teacher. Hannah teaches students of all ages and holds an annual piano recital to showcase their musical achievements. Hannah also worked part-time at the Triplehorn Insect Collection after completing her internship there.

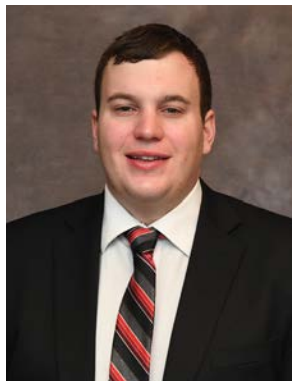
Studying abroad in New Zealand was Hannah's most enjoyable and rewarding experience. Prior to this trip, Hannah had never been on an airplane, let alone out of the country. She said it was very rewarding to experience travel for the first time and to meet so many new people with new ideas. This experience pushed Hannah out of her comfort zone and allowed her to expand her worldview, which she will value for the rest of her life.

Volunteering at Inniswood Metro Gardens each summer as well as at the annual Museum of Biological Diversity Open House were important experiences to Hannah. She is also a 4-H volunteer, teaching students about entomology. On campus, Hannah has been president of Chrysalis, the undergraduate entomology club, and served on CFAES Student Council as the representative for Chrysalis. Hannah found her greatest sense of accomplishment in being elected President of Chrysalis. When she started her term, there was no existing student government and only one other active member. Hannah was successful in establishing a new organizational structure for the club and successfully got more members involved.

Hannah's academic achievements include: Dean's List | OSU Provost Scholarship | Paul A. Kari Scholarship | Joseph and Nina Mattus Memorial Scholarship.

Following graduation, Hannah plans to attend graduate school at The Ohio State University. She will work with Dr. Reed Johnson to research honeybees in Wooster, Ohio. Upon completing her master's degree, she would like to obtain a PhD in entomology. Afterward, Hannah hopes to have the opportunity to teach entomology classes at a university while performing further entomological research.

Dr. Luciana Musetti is the individual Hannah named as her primary mentor. Not only did she oversee her internship experience, she was also Hannah's employer throughout much of her undergraduate career. Dr. Musetti not only helped guide Hannah through research, she has also served as a valuable counselor and friend throughout Hannah's college career.



TANNER W. MATTHEWS

OHIO CITY, OH

AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Tanner Matthews says his greatest sense of accomplishment was completing his first semester as an undergraduate. To some this might sound like an ordinary accomplishment, but it came with a great sense of relief and was a foundation for his future. There were several times during those first few months that Tanner considered giving in and heading back home. However, with the

help of many new friends, his mentor, and the love and support from those back home, Tanner powered through the semester. Tanner says he learned to love the opportunities that Ohio State gave him.

Completing internships with three companies as an undergraduate, Tanner held two internships in Ohio. First, he was an agronomy intern with Mercer Landmark, and then a machinery specialist and parts intern for Kenn-Feld Group. He later completed an internship as a research agronomy intern for Precision Planting in Illinois.

Tanner says his most valuable undergraduate learning experience was the realization that excellence and distinction are qualities that every student at Ohio State earns through attending this great university, which means that it can be a challenge to stand out among such accomplished peers. This realization has helped Tanner learn how important it is to strive for success in the agriculture industry, which involves so many resourceful, brilliant people.

While attending classes, Tanner worked part time on the weekends for his family's grain farm in Van Wert county. Their farm includes corn and soybeans on 2800 acres, farming no-till and strip tillage.

The most rewarding learning experience that Tanner had during his time at Ohio State was studying abroad in Brazil. Traveling with Alpha Zeta Partners for his spring semester to study Brazilian agriculture was rewarding because it opened Tanner's eyes to a whole new global perspective on agriculture. Tanner will carry the knowledge and realizations he obtained through this experience with him to all future endeavors.

Tanner was actively involved with student organizations as an undergraduate, including Agricultural Systems Management Club, Crops and Soils Club, Alpha Zeta Partners, and CFAES Student Council. He was also a member of Van Wert County Young Ag Professionals. He attended the Ohio Farm Bureau Young Ag Professional Conference, National FFA New Century Farmer Conference, and volunteered in the community with Habitat for Humanity.

Tanner's academic honors include: Dean's List | CFAES Newcomb Scholar | R.D. Barden Scholarship | Consolidated Grain and Barge Scholarship | Paul H. Rofkar Scholarship.

After graduation Tanner plans to return to his family's farm full-time, where he will contribute to the operation by diversifying into beef cattle production and expanding the farm's acreage. He also plans to make the farm more sustainable with different conservation practices that are beneficial to the land and cost-effective.

The mentor Tanner selected was Dr. Dewey Mann. Dr. Mann was his academic advisor and the advisor to the Agricultural Systems Management Club. Tanner notes Dr. Mann as the main reason why he has been successful here at Ohio State, because he kept him focused on the goal of getting the most out of the college experience instead of simply graduation. Tanner said he can never thank Dr. Mann enough for his unwavering, energetic guidance.



PATRICK C. LYNCH

MARYSVILLE, OH

PROFESSIONAL GOLF MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

Beginning his undergraduate coursework on the Marion Campus of The Ohio State University, Patrick Lynch shared that his most valuable learning experience in college were the internships he completed at Scioto Reserve Country Club. The head golf professional there was also a graduate of the Professional Golf Management program at OSU. Learning from someone who had gone through the same program was beneficial, because Patrick could ask for his advice on a career in the golf industry, internships, and schoolwork.

Patrick's most enjoyable and rewarding experiences throughout his undergraduate studies were the Professional Golf Management tournaments. Every spring and autumn semester, the PGM program holds five to six tournaments that the PGM students may compete in. Patrick found these to always be enjoyable because it allowed him to make friends and play golf with other students in his major. It also gave Patrick activities to look forward to during the long semesters. He enjoyed that they were both competitive and unique; every tournament was different and utilized different formats, including some as team events, which he particularly enjoyed.

The single experience that gave Patrick a great sense of accomplishment was the Professional Golf Management Club's five-week junior golf clinic with The First Tee of Central Ohio. He enjoyed teaching the junior golfers who showed interest while at Ohio State and considers his time spent there impactful. Through introducing the game of golf and teaching life lessons to a younger generation, this involvement delivered on one of Patrick's lifelong goals, which he hopes to do more of in the future. As a member of the club, Patrick has helped with this program each year since 2017.

Patrick's work experience involved both working and interning at Scioto Reserve Country Club. In the summer he worked in the golf department as a player service employee and pro shop attendant/assistant golf professional, and for the events department in the winter. This arrangement allowed him to have a job outside of the golf season, and he also gained valuable experience in the hospitality and food & beverage areas of the Country Club. The most challenging aspect of this experience was making sure to manage time between work and classes.

Patrick is proud that his academic accomplishments include recognition on the Dean's List for several semesters.

After graduation, Patrick plans to continue working at Scioto Reserve Country Club as an assistant golf professional. While working there, he aims to become a certified PGA Professional through the PGA of America and to continue to advocate for the game of golf.

Patrick's mentor during his time at The Ohio State University has been Mr. Tim Kerr. Patrick selected Mr. Kerr because he was able to help Patrick find and secure internships at Scioto Reserve Country Club, which have been a significant part of Patrick's life for the past few years. Mr. Kerr has also always been there to answer his questions and help Patrick navigate the process of completing the internships.



ISAAC H. KNOWLES

MARYSVILLE, OH

PLANT HEALTH MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY

Isaac Knowles began his undergraduate Buckeye experience by taking classes at the Marion Campus of The Ohio State University before transitioning to Columbus the following summer.

Isaac names his most valuable undergraduate learning experience as his work during the summer of 2019 in the Wayne National Forest. Here he began to develop his skills, gain hands-on experience, and conduct research out in the field by spending his

days hiking through the forest to locate 25-year-old plots and record how they had changed over time. He measured tree species, size, seedling species, and extensive practice identifying woodland plants, every day encountering something he had never seen before.

Meaningful involvement in a variety of student clubs, including holding leadership roles in several organizations, has been Isaac's most rewarding experience as a student. Each group has its own goals, and he found fulfillment by making contributions to reach them. His variety of clubs, classes, and work has meant putting in some 12-hour days – or beyond – on occasion, but Isaac said he wouldn't have it any other way.

In addition to coursework, Isaac has held a part-time job with the IT company XTEK as an integration technician. He noted that his work in this role has been very different in contrast to the topics he studies at Ohio State.

When reflecting upon the experience which provided the greatest sense of accomplishment for him, Isaac is proud that his experience working on research in a nematology lab has helped farmers across the state of Ohio. While working in Dr. Terry Niblack's nematology lab, Isaac contributed to a project for the Ohio Soybean Council which involved collecting soil samples from farmers around the state and testing for soybean cyst nematodes. The results were used to notify producers if a heavy infestation was detected, allowing them to take necessary action.

Isaac has been serving as Treasurer for the Ohio State chapter of the Fish and Wildlife Society student organization. Isaac is also Treasurer for the Plant Health and Research Management (PHARM) Club. In addition to serving as an officer in these student organizations, he represents the Plant Pathology department as a member of the CFAES Student Council. Isaac is also a member of the Society for Ecological Restoration Club and part of the restoration and propagation committees. He has also volunteered for three years as a Franklin County 4-H advisor.

Isaac has been recognized on the Dean's List for several semesters.

Isaac has not finalized his plans following graduation, but he looks forward to considering a wide range of options to utilize the knowledge he has gained through his undergraduate experiences.

Isaac would like to recognize Mr. Timothy Ralston as his mentor, who has been there for him since he transitioned to the Columbus campus. Whenever Isaac had a question, he is one of the first people he consults. Mr. Ralston has been his lab supervisor for two years, and Isaac can't imagine his time at Ohio State without his assistance.



MATTHEW R. KLOPFENSTEIN

HAVILAND, OH

FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING -
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Matthew Klopfenstein's most valuable undergraduate experience has been his time with the Quarter-Scale Tractor Student Design Team. Together they design, build, test, market, and compete with a custom-built tractor on an international level. The comprehensive nature of these competition events challenged Matthew to connect learning from the classroom to his passions,

and has forever changed his performance as an engineer. This experience is also what Matthew notes as his greatest sense of accomplishment. He has served as a leader and made connections for internships as well as a full-time job following graduation.

One of Matthew's most enjoyable experiences was the time he spent studying abroad in Brazil with Alpha Zeta Partners for six weeks. Being abroad for such a long period of time allowed Matthew to be fully immersed in a culture different from his own. He developed a new understanding for working with others, agriculture, and global engagement.

Matthew has completed internships with 360 Yield Center in Tremont, Illinois as a research and development engineering intern. He held another internship with Precision Planting in Tremont, Illinois, also as a research and development engineering intern, as well as an internship with Kuhn North America Brodhead in Wisconsin where he worked as a product test and evaluation intern. In addition to his internship experiences, Matthew has also served as a research assistant to Dr. Shearer in the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering. His work experiences include Cookie Cottage Bakery where he was a contracted engineer to create a cookie chip measurement tool to increase the efficiency of making their most expensive cookie. Matthew also worked at Klopfenstein Family Farms as an assistant farm manager, and as a co-owner of Deborah's Golden's to breed and sell purebred AKC-registered Golden Retrievers.

Matthew has been actively involved as an undergraduate student in many organizations such as: CFAES Ambassador, ASABE Engineers Club, Quarter-Scale Tractor Team, Alpha Zeta Partners Professional Fraternity, and FarmHouse Fraternity. He has served as a Zig Ziglar Foundation Certified Professional Speaker and Facilitator, Nationwide Children's Hospital Volunteer, as well as served the Ohio FFA Organization as the State President, Treasurer, and National Officer Candidate.

Matthew's academic honors and accomplishments include: FarmHouse International Fraternity President of the Year | SPHINX Senior Class Honorary | New Face of ASABE | Dean's List | Jerry Minore Memorial National Wheat Foundation Scholar | Ohio Soybean Council Scholar | FarmHouse Scholar | Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation Scholar | American FFA Degree Recipient | Agriculture Future of America Leadership Conference Delegate | Joe-Leiser Memorial Ag-Credit Scholar.

After graduating, Matthew will begin his engineering career working for CNH Industrial in Burr Ridge, Illinois as a hydraulic engineer while working towards his Professional Engineers License. Matthew is also getting married early next year to his fiancé, Mary, who he met at Ohio State.

Dr. Scott Shearer is who Matthew identified as his primary mentor. Dr. Shearer serves as Chair for Matthew's major department, his professor for several courses, an advisor for the Quarter-Scale Tractor Team, and someone Matthew considers a friend. Dr. Shearer challenged Matthew to grow in all facets of his learning. Matthew is grateful to Dr. Shearer for his support and encouragement.



CALEB M. HICKMAN

MOUNT VERNON, OH

AGRISCIENCE EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

The opportunity to impact the lives of others is what Caleb Hickman identified as his greatest accomplishment from his college career. Working with Buckeye Library Leaders, he saw firsthand how domestic abuse affects children. While with the Columbus Metropolitan Library System, Caleb encouraged these youth with a smiling face. Caleb considers his greatest

undergraduate accomplishment that of helping provide the Columbus community a safe place for students to learn.

Beginning his education on the Newark campus of The Ohio State University, Caleb has been an engaged student from the start. Once on the Columbus campus, Caleb lived in the Stadium Scholarship Program (SSP). SSP provided him with a diverse community and friendships that will last a lifetime. SSP also opened opportunities for Caleb to learn about different cultures and ethnicities.

Caleb completed a two-year internship at Gutridge construction company located in Dublin, Ohio, where he served as the administrative assistant for the heating and cooling department. Caleb says he adored his time at Gutridge and was very grateful to have completed an internship outside of his major; it provided him with a different perspective on life and many transferable skills.

In the future, Caleb plans to help rural communities understand the complexities of living in a diverse world, an interest that was sparked after taking Dr. Susie Whittington's course titled "Toward Cultural Proficiency". The course focused on helping others understand an array of identities, cultural differences, and ways of life. Between his undergraduate research and Dr. Whittington's class, Caleb discovered a passion for enhancing rural communities and increasing understanding of an array of diverse backgrounds.

At Ohio State, Caleb has been a part of ten student organizations and served on several executive teams. These student organizations include FarmHouse-ATZ Fraternity, Undergraduate Student Government, Bucket and Dipper Junior Class Honorary, Romophos Sophomore Class Honorary, Stadium Scholarship Program, Fabulous Unique Neighborhood Hall Council, Agricultural Education Society, Buckeye Library Leaders, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and Community Commitment.

Caleb's academic honors include: Bucket and Dipper Junior Class Honorary | Romophos Sophomore Class Honorary | Dean's List | William S. and Catherine May Scholarship | Farm Bureau Scholarship | Vance Family 4-H Scholarship | Levalley Agriscience Education Scholarship | Buchwald Family Scholarship | Beard Scholarship | Pickering Scholarship | Foltz Family Scholarship | OABA Agriscience Education Scholarship | Edwards Scholarship in CFAES.

Caleb plans to attend graduate school to pursue a Master of Science in Community and Leadership Development. Caleb plans to conduct research that will aid rural youth. Upon completion of this degree, he intends on continuing his education by earning a PhD.

Three amazing individuals have aided Caleb in his successes during his studies: Dr. Susie Whittington, Dr. Caryn Filson, and Dr. Jera Niewoehner-Green. He stated that they provided him with amazing conversations, a shoulder and strength to lean on, and shared wisdom that will serve him for years to come.



MEGAN L. GREGG

WEST CHESTER, OH

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

One of Megan Gregg's most valuable undergraduate learning experiences was in a Food Additives class. Megan learned a lot of great information during this class that she was able to connect to many other classes as well. It remains one of the most interesting and illuminating courses she has taken at Ohio State.

Another enjoyable experience Megan had during her undergraduate career was an internship at The J.M. Smucker Company. Megan fit well into their company culture and met a lot of great people during her summer there, not only on the Smucker Natural Foods team where she worked, but throughout the company. Megan primarily worked on several product development projects, and she appreciated feeling like the work she did made a difference for her team.

Megan participated on a product development team, and she was thrilled when they took second place at the national competition in Chicago for Baking Tech 2018. The team consisted of Megan and three other undergraduates, and because they were competing mostly against teams of college seniors or graduate students, they felt especially accomplished with their performance in the competition. The preparations began in her sophomore year, as she and her teammates performed extensive research to develop a shelf-stable, bite-sized cake with international flavors. They achieved a phenomenal result with their Masala Chai Pumpkin Pie Gemstone Cakes.

Interning at the flavor company Mane in Lebanon, Ohio, Megan worked as a sensory technician intern and gained experience in research and development of flavors, flavor applications, and flavor chemistry. She also interned at The J.M. Smucker Company in Orrville, Ohio as a Natural Foods Research and Development Intern. Here she enjoyed being on a small team and learning more about how R&D intersects with marketing and finance. In both internships she gained valuable skills and experience in the food science and development industry, and challenged herself to grow beyond her comfort zone.

Megan has been a member of the Food Science Club since freshman year. She served as the Product Development Liaison for the club where she informed members about the different product development competitions offered that year and assisted the product development teams as they worked on their entries. She was also one of the co-presidents of the Food Science Club. In addition to leading the club, Megan helped organize the Farm Science Review fundraiser and an annual department Thanksgiving lunch.

Megan was proud to be recognized on the Dean's List as an undergraduate.

Once she graduates in May, Megan is thrilled to move right into industry with a role at The J.M. Smucker Company as a Sensory Technician in Orrville, Ohio.

Dr. Mary Kay Pohlschneider is Megan's selection as her mentor. Megan said Dr. Pohlschneider has always been there for her on both an academic and personal level, making her one of the most influential people Megan encountered at Ohio State. Not only has Dr. Pohlschneider been a great professor in the classes Megan has taken with her, her excellent advice and willingness to help is very appreciated.



KATIE A. GAREN

LONDON, OH

AGRIBUSINESS AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Katie Garen emphasizes that she is forever grateful to the university, her amazing friend group, and her parents for the continuous influence they have in her everyday life. She has had their support and encouragement as she learns about herself and faces challenges. One such challenge was picking up and moving twelve hours away to the great state of Nebraska for an internship. Interning with Pioneer Seeds allowed Katie to discover how to really let people get to know her in a short amount of time, how to learn extremely fast, and how to slow down and have patience with yourself and others. She learned the most about herself and defined her future life goals through this adventure.

The most enjoyable undergraduate experiences to Katie were the times she studied abroad. Specifically, she appreciated her first-year experience in Nicaragua. Katie greatly enjoyed this trip because it was her first experience traveling internationally. Most of all, Katie saw how agricultural education can allow the everyday person to help someone in need. Secondly, her education abroad to Brazil with the Alpha Zeta Partners Honorary was impactful due to the amount and quality of knowledge she obtained about a large-producing global competitor.

During Katie's time at Ohio State she has worked as one of Dr. Mark Loux's student research assistants within the field of weed science. She has assisted with various research projects including trials with Marestail seed, Waterhemp seed, chemical trials with Enlist and Dicamba soybeans, and other areas such as seed germination.

Katie's greatest sense of an accomplishment during her undergraduate program at OSU has come from recruiting and encouraging other peers within CFAES to stay engaged. Her extensive extracurricular involvement includes Crops and Soils Club, Alpha Zeta Partners, and the Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority. Katie participated in two study abroad experiences. She served on "The Bucks" planning committee for the Celebration of Students Banquet and served as a Peer Mentor. Additionally, Katie has been a member or participant of OSU NAMA team, the OSU Weed Science Team, ASM Club, and Agribusiness Club.

Included among Katie's academic achievements are: Dean's List | CFAES Newcomb Scholar | Alpha Zeta Partners Honorary Fraternity | Farm Credit Mid-America College Leaders Program | 4-H Farm Credit Scholarship | OHBPA Scholarship | CFAES Greenleaf Award | Moser Family Study Abroad Scholarship | David Baird Scholarship Fund | CFAES Study Abroad Fund | Sharp Memorial Scholar | Bere Ag Econ Scholarship | Richard Scholarship | Smith 4-H Scholarship | Ingraham Scholarship.

Upon graduation, Katie will begin her next journey with Corteva Agrisciences as an Associate Territory Manager. Katie is excited for this role to begin as it should open an unlimited number of professional doors.

Dr. David Barker is the clear choice as Katie's influential mentor at The Ohio State University. Dr. Barker assisted Katie not only with her academic and professional goals but was always willing to discuss her personal goals as well. She recalls how he even provided advice on something as small as the best route to Nebraska for her internship! Dr. Barker has made an impact on Katie by exemplifying the value of humor and fun in one's professional career.



JENNA A. FRYER

NORTH SYRACUSE, NY

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Jenna Fryer has certainly taken full advantage of internship opportunities, completing five internships during her undergraduate program. She served as a Product Development Intern at New Hope Mills in Auburn, New York; worked as an Intern with the Northeast Dairy Suppliers Association based in Syracuse, New York; interned with Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida through their Disney College Program; worked at the Orrville, Ohio location of The J.M. Smucker Company contributing as a Pet Products Research Intern; and functioned as a Sensory and Consumer Products Insights Intern in Barrington, Illinois with PepsiCo. She highlighted several beneficial experiences of her internships: the ability to view all steps of product development, from ideation through launch; interacting with farmers and processors to gain insight into the food industry; learning all the intricacies of the product development process; gaining understanding of the regulatory and policy side of the food industry; and conducting consumer preference research.

Deriving her greatest sense of accomplishment from completing her undergraduate research project, Jenna described that being able to run a study from ideation through the reporting of results was extremely fulfilling. She said that being able to look in-depth at human perceptions, sense of smell, and the impact senses have on food and food choices was a rewarding experience, and one that revealed her passion for sensory science.

Noting that her most enjoyable experience of her undergraduate career was winning the regional and placing second at the Institute of Food Technologists College Bowl National Competition, Jenna enjoyed seeing her hard work and studying pay off during her three years as a team member. Additionally, she said the camaraderie and excitement of being on the stage at the finals in New Orleans was one of the most rewarding and thrilling feelings she has ever had.

Jenna has received the following honors during her undergraduate career: Dean's List | Jill A. Pfister Outstanding First Year Student Award | Honors Program | National Buckeye Scholarship | Ohio State Maximus Scholarship | OVIFT Research Forum Finalist | Phi Tau Sigma Food Science Honor Society member.

After graduation Jenna plans to attend graduate school to continue studying food science with a research focus in sensory science.

Naming Dr. Christopher Simons as her primary mentor, Jenna said, "When I came to Ohio State as a bright-eyed freshman, with little to no relevant coursework under my belt, Dr. Simons allowed me to join his lab, and has continued to mentor me ever since. He has given me the opportunity to conduct research both under a graduate student as well as my own independent project." She appreciates Dr. Simons' open-door approach, where he has provided guidance and the resources necessary to be successful all while fostering independent thinking. She explained that the lab that Dr. Simons has created at Ohio State is an inspiring and collaborative environment that has provided her with experiences and professional connections to carry with her as she moves on to the next phase of her academic career. Jenna credits him with contributing to the truly great experience she has had at Ohio State.



SIMONE K. FISHEL

DUBLIN, OH

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Simone Fishel's first internship as Summer Operations Intern in the summer of 2018 was at New Day Farms in Raymond, Ohio, which is a part of Daybreak Foods. This multi-disciplinary internship gave Simone first-hand experience with the raw materials element of the food supply chain for eggs. Simone helped caretakers in the pullet and layer houses to maintain feed and water levels as well as cleanliness. Simone learned the process for washing, breaking, and separating eggs in addition to

properly loading a tanker for transport. This experience has given Simone perspective on the resources used to produce a single ingredient that food companies utilize. The second internship she completed was as a Retail Research and Development Intern at T. Marzetti in Lewis Center, Ohio. Simone had the opportunity to work on salad dressing reformulations, learn about the Stage Gate process, which guides the development of a product from inception to launch, and investigate a technology used to measure headspace oxygen, dissolved oxygen, and oxygen permeability. This experience taught Simone the industry standards in Research and Development which will increase her marketability for future R&D positions.

The undergraduate experience Simone found most rewarding was being a member of the Varsity Women's Rowing Team. Devoting 36 hours per week to the sport, she has excelled as a varsity athlete. Despite days packed with physical and academic challenges, Simone was frequently accomplishing things she did not previously think she was capable of doing. She recounts that this self-growth, getting to know her teammates, and notable highlights such as winning two B1G Championships, all made for a rewarding experience.

Simone has also conducted research as an undergraduate and has assisted with projects for Dr. Yael Vodovotz. These projects researched the water uptake in noodles based off the cooking medium including water and starch solutions, cooking time, and surface attributes of the pasta itself. Simone learned how to prep and run samples.

During Spring semester 2020, Simone began a part-time position at Abbott Nutrition. She has been working on a Product History Index to provide a searchable and complete database to the Product Development team.

Among Simone's academic honors are: Academic All-Big Ten Spring 2019 | Scholar Athlete (2017, 2018, & 2019) | Dean's List | Provost scholarship recipient.

After graduation Simone plans to complete a six-month co-op at Nestle Gerber from June to December, 2020. Following this co-op, Simone plans to apply to a master's program in Food Science and Technology to begin in Spring 2021.

Simone would like to recognize Dr. Luis Rodriguez-Saona as her mentor. Dr. Rodriguez-Saona encouraged Simone to be a successful student-athlete. He always helped Simone find alternative classes and solutions while keeping her on track for graduation and managing the hours needed as an athlete. Dr. Rodriguez-Saona helped her plan the final two semesters at OSU to take advantage of valuable resources and opportunities. He was the first person to suggest that Simone consider graduate school; it was not on her radar, but with his encouragement, Simone became excited for the future ahead.



KADY R. DAVIS

CARROLLTON, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES – ANIMAL INDUSTRIES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

When asked what her most valuable learning experience has been, Kady Davis indicated her participation in the education abroad programs to Nicaragua, Ireland, and Italy. Kady was able to take what she learned in the classroom and apply it to a real-world setting while reflecting on what she learned to further herself as a citizen, student, and professional.

During the spring semester of 2018, Kady served as a Senate Page in the Ohio Statehouse. It was an experience she enjoyed as it allowed her to meet many industry representatives while learning more about government operations. Kady continued to balance her work experiences with her rigorous academic course load. Beginning autumn semester of 2018, Kady worked part-time in the prospective student services office in coordinating the Experience Ohio State for a Day program.

Kady completed two internships while enrolled at Ohio State. She interned with Heritage Cooperative in Lisbon, Ohio as a Purina feed sales intern. She also interned with the Kim Davis Insurance Agency in Waynesburg, Ohio as an Agribusiness intern.

Proud to accomplish a goal she set, Kady trained and ran her first half marathon at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Columbus Marathon in October of 2019. She said crossing the finish line with her roommate was an amazing feeling of accomplishment.

Kady has had extensive involvement as a volunteer and with community service. She has been a member of Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority where she served as Philanthropy chair for two years. Kady has served as an ambassador for the College helping with student recruitment events, serving as a representative of undergraduate students, and interacting with alumni and donors. Kady has also participated in BuckeyeThon. Kady served as a Department of Animal Sciences delegate for the CFAES Student Council as well as a member of the Animal Science Community Alliance leadership team for her department.

Kady's academic honors include: Dean's List | Bucket and Dipper Junior Class Honorary | National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

After graduation, Kady will be working for the Kim Davis Insurance Agency as an Associate Agent specializing in farm insurance. She will develop marketing strategies, work with clients to deliver risk management strategies that fit their needs, as well as service all new and renewal policies. Kady is excited to be able to learn even more about the agency and help grow the business.

Kady has selected Ms. Mariette Benage as her mentor. Kady said, "Mariette Benage is someone I've considered to be my mentor since my second year as an undergraduate student. I first met Mariette when I decided to apply to the ASCA team, and I truly believe my college experience would not be what it is today if it wasn't for Mariette. Mariette has always been very helpful and supportive and is always willing to sit and chat about absolutely anything. She's an incredible role model because of her impactful leadership and generosity, and she has made such a positive impact on my college experience."



JAMES V. CONSTANTINO

POUGHKEEPSIE, NY

ANIMAL SCIENCES – ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Traveling to São Paulo, Brazil to present his research project on beef cattle at an international undergraduate research conference has been the most rewarding experience during James Constantino's undergraduate career. As one of six students chosen to represent The Ohio State University, James presented to peers in the field of Animal Sciences and spent eight days in Brazil. He toured the campus and laboratories, experienced

Brazilian culture, and enjoyed meeting students at the University of São Paulo.

As a student interested in research, James began working with Dr. Alvaro Garcia Guerra in the Department of Animal Sciences on beef cattle research during his sophomore year. His project examined a gene in beef cattle that led to multiple births due to multiple ovulations. James presented at the CFAES annual research forum and received second place in his category. In addition to his trip to Brazil, he traveled to San José, California to present his research at undergraduate research conferences. He plans to graduate with research distinction following the completion of his undergraduate thesis work.

Academic accolades achieved by James include: Dean's List | American Society of Animal Science Scholastic Achievement Award | Department of Animal Sciences George R. Johnson Award | Kay Scholarship | Henderson Fund in Agriculture Scholarship | Sultzbach Memorial Scholarship | Undergraduate Research Scholarship | Kellogg Honors Scholarship | Hawk Memorial Scholarship | Honors Small Grant for Undergraduate Research | SEEDS: The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grant | Luigi and Elisa Panichi Memorial Scholarship.

Serving as philanthropy chair for Delta Sigma Phi, James planned Dog Days, his fraternity's yearly philanthropy event, which was the experience James identified as providing him with the greatest sense of accomplishment. He explained that the event is held right before finals week, allowing students to relax and unwind in the company of dogs by making a donation. All proceeds, over \$4000 raised, went to a local animal shelter, Columbus Humane.

During the summer following his first year on campus, James completed an internship with Waterman Dairy Farm in Columbus, Ohio. He was employed as a milker on the farm and was responsible for daily milking among other chores. James also gave tours to visitors and helped educate visitors about dairy farming. James also interned with Ohio Wildlife Center working with species native to Ohio such as squirrels, rabbits, opossums, turtles, and birds.

James plans to further his education following graduation by attending veterinary school. He aspires to one day open his own veterinary practice and practice small animal and exotic medicine.

James selected Dr. Alvaro Garcia Guerra as his mentor, citing his central role as his advisor for his research project. James is grateful for the opportunities provided through his research project, and noted that it has shaped his entire academic career. They first connected when James was in his sophomore year and have stayed in touch. Thanks to Dr. Garcia Guerra who provided guidance and encouraged him to pursue many opportunities.



MARY L. BUEHLER

ANNA, OH

AGRIBUSINESS AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

As a first-generation college student from rural Ohio, Mary Buehler was apprehensive about enrolling at the Columbus campus. Her concerns quickly subsided once she became engaged in campus life, most specifically by getting involved in a diverse and welcoming Buckeye community. Mary has taken full advantage of the opportunities to connect with others and

demonstrated a great desire to pay forward throughout her time in college.

Mary's academic honors include: SPHINX Senior Class Honorary | Mid-America CropLife Association | Young Leader Scholarship Program | Bucket & Dipper Junior Class Honorary | Farm Credit Mid-America College Scholars Program | Dean's List.

Referring to her internship experiences as her most valuable learning experience, Mary interned with Ohio Agribusiness Association as well as with Farm Credit Mid-America. During these internships she gained experience in navigating an office environment, learned about the influence of culture in a company, and developed her skillset in project management. The internship experiences brought about opportunities to utilize problem-solving when facing challenging situations, and connected Mary with two industry mentors, role models who will undoubtedly assist her as she begins her career in the agriculture industry.

Mary has had extensive participation in volunteer work and community engagement experiences as an undergraduate. She has been active as a CFAES Ambassador representing the college at many events and recruiting new students. Mary's leadership and passion for helping others was also enhanced during her education abroad experience with Alpha Zeta Partners, a leadership honorary that traveled to Brazil for six weeks, where she learned crucial lessons about service, cultural intelligence, diversity, and inclusivity. She has collaborated with other leaders, served as a reliable teammate, and bolstered her knowledge of business strategies as a member of the National Agri-Marketing Association Team. Mary also served as a representative on the CFAES Sesquicentennial Planning and Engagement Committee to help plan and lead college celebration events.

Mary's life's mission is to connect people to the resources they need, specifically within agriculture. Upon graduation, Mary will be moving with her fiancé Matthew, who is also being recognized this evening, to Illinois. Mary is excited that at the end of May she will begin working with Illinois Farm Bureau as their Youth and Collegiate Program Coordinator. She also plans to be an active member in her new community by engaging with local FFA chapters and 4-H clubs to help build leaders of tomorrow. Additionally she looks forward to finding the local Ohio State Alumni Association as she believes being a Buckeye is not just about the college experience, it is for life!

Ms. Amy Jo Baughman was identified as Mary's mentor. Mary said, "Amy Jo is someone who has always been there for me, and many other students for that matter, to support us in and far beyond our academic careers. She's a smile I can always count on, the perfectly timed pep talk, the queen of listening, and the voice of optimism." Mary is grateful for Ms. Baughman's influence and is hopeful one day she will be able to emulate her wisdom and kindness to others.



ASAAD M. AHMAD

COLUMBUS, OH

CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Asaad Ahmad had already earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Basrah (Basrah, Iraq) and spent many years working in the construction industry in multiple countries before beginning his undergraduate experience at The Ohio State University in 2018. Asaad is results-driven and knows how to persevere, particularly in learning. He has navigated moving to a

new country, maintaining employment, and raising a family, all while excelling in the classroom. His future is bright, and he has benefitted greatly from his time as a Buckeye.

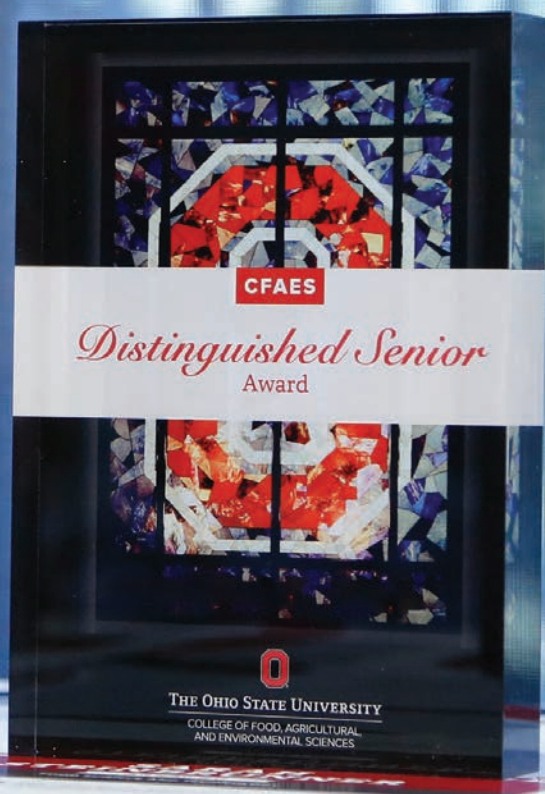
Asaad identified group project work as his most rewarding experience as an undergraduate, noting that he enjoyed the opportunity to learn from and alongside his other colleagues. He particularly values this experience, as collaboration is a crucial element to success in the construction industry. When considering what he found to be his greatest sense of accomplishment, Asaad notes that he was honored to be recognized as a CFAES Distinguished Senior. In light of the challenges he faced overcoming cultural and language barriers, managing responsibilities at work and at home, he is proud that his hard work paid off, as evidenced by his 4.0 GPA. He shared that reading the nomination form submitted from his mentor Anastasia Britt afforded him time to reflect on his accomplishments, and gratitude for the connection he was able to form with his faculty advisor. She understood the challenges he faced experiencing a new culture and contributed positively to his experience here. He knows that the relationship they began will continue as he remains connected as a graduate of the Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

As a current full-time employee with Elford, he has been a project manager for Ohio State projects while enrolled as student. In addition to this work commitment, Asaad is the proud father of three girls and husband to Heba. Not all students work on a degree while being employed full time, and Asaad has committed to doing whatever it takes to support his family while furthering opportunities for all of them in the future.

Academic honors received by Asaad include: Dean's List | Central Ohio Associated General Construction Scholarship | The National Society of Leadership and Success | CSCC Dean's List.

After graduation, Asaad plans to apply his education and professional experience to work with one of the major engineering and construction companies in the country. He aspires to one day run his own construction company. He hopes to make an immediate impact to any team he joins and will share his passions, hard work, dedication, and success.

Without his mentors, Ms. Anastasia Britt and Mr. Jeff Suchy, Asaad says he wouldn't be where he is today. They have supported and encouraged him to continue his academic career at OSU. They provided him with assistance and advice to reach his goal of graduating while maintaining an exceptional GPA in all of his classes. He is grateful for their support.



CFAES

Distinguished Senior
Award



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Thank you to the 2020 CFAES Faculty and Staff members,
who were identified by an award recipient as someone who has truly
made a difference to the recipient during their college career.



MENTORS

DAVID BARKER

JERA NIEWOEHNER-GREEN

AMY JO BAUGHMAN

MARY KAY POHLSCHNEIDER

MARIETTE BENAGE

TIMOTHY RALSTON

ANASTASIA BRITT

LUIS RODRIGUEZ-SAONA

EMILY BUCK

SCOTT SHEARER

MAURICE EATRIDGE

CHRISTOPHER SIMONS

CARYN FILSON

ANNIE SPECHT

ALVARO GARCIA GUERRA

JEFF SUCHY

TIM KERR

PHILIP SUTTON

ALEXANDER LINDSEY

RYAN TIETJE

BRIAN LOWER

ELLA WEAVER

DEWEY MANN

SUSIE WHITTINGTON

LUCIANA MUSETTI

ROBYN WILSON

CARMEN OHIO

Words by Fred. A. Cornell, '06.

Spanish Chant.

Oh! come let's sing O - hi - o's praise And songs to Al - ma Ma - ter raise;

The first system of musical notation for 'Carmen Ohio'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: 'Oh! come let's sing O - hi - o's praise And songs to Al - ma Ma - ter raise;'.

While our hearts re - bound - ing thrill With joy which death a - lone can still.

The second system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'While our hearts re - bound - ing thrill With joy which death a - lone can still.'

Sum - mer's heat or Win - ter's cold, The sea - sons pass, the years will roll:..

The third system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: 'Sum - mer's heat or Win - ter's cold, The sea - sons pass, the years will roll:..'

Time and change will sure - ly show How firm thy friend - ship— O - hi - o.

The fourth system of musical notation, which concludes the piece. The vocal line ends with the lyrics: 'Time and change will sure - ly show How firm thy friend - ship— O - hi - o.'

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HOW
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THEY
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**THE OHIO STATE
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— *We Sustain Life* —