

PRESS RELEASE

MEZZOPERA NAMED 2020 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Louis Mezzopera of Chardon, Ohio, has been named a 2020 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“The Distinguished Senior Award is the most prestigious undergraduate award in CFAES, recognizing the top graduating seniors from each of the academic units on the Columbus campus,” said Steven Neal, CFAES professor and associate dean for academic programs.

Mezzopera, a construction systems management major from Geauga County, was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that he personified the award’s attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

“One of the hallmarks of our college is an emphasis on student success, and it is heartwarming to see it exemplified through the accomplishments of our students,” Neal said. “Recipients are our future innovators and leaders who have already made an impact within the academic environment at this university and beyond.”

Mezzopera was nominated for the Distinguished Senior Award by Anastasia Britt, Don Schafer, and Adrienne Sraver, all lecturers in CFAES’ Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

They wrote, “Louis has made his mark at Ohio State not only in his home department, but also across the university as a whole. He is an embodiment of the CFAES mission when it comes to academic excellence, leadership, and integrity and is deserving of the Distinguished Senior Award.”

On the university level, Mezzopera was one of six elected officers on Ohio State’s Student-Alumni Council, which aims to connect alumni with current students. He played a role in planning homecoming activities and volunteer events such as the Buck-I-Run 5k.

He was also heavily involved with the Mount Leadership Society Scholars, a two-year scholars program that focuses on servant leadership. “I was able to give hundreds of hours of service to OSU and Columbus by planning and implementing a litany of events from packaging hygiene care bags to helping with a wheelchair basketball game for the Paralyzed Veterans of America,” he said. “The most significant opportunity I had was spending a full year of service with the Community Kitchen of Columbus serving hot meals to the less fortunate two to three times per week.”

In the construction systems management program, Louis distinguished himself as a teaching assistant and as a participant in the National Association of Home Builders Student Competition Team, representing Ohio State at the national level.

2020 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD

Academic Programs

100 Agricultural Administration
2120 Fyffe Road | Columbus, OH 43210

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Mezzopera held three construction-related internships: working as an assistant estimator at 3 Pillar Homes, Columbus, Ohio; as an assistant project manager at Cleveland Construction, Inc. (CCI), Cleveland, Ohio; and an assistant project manager at Enzoco Custom Homes, Chardon, Ohio.

“While at CCI, I had the opportunity to work on the renovation of the historic Terminal Tower in Cleveland,” he said. “At the time of its completion in 1930, it was the second-tallest building in the world. Having the opportunity to help restore and revitalize this historic building for another 100 years of use was extremely rewarding.”

Mezzopera maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA across his college career. Because of his outstanding academic record, he was named a CFAES Newcomb Scholar and earned the Ohio State Provost Scholarship, as well as scholarships from the Ohio Contractors Association, the Society of Marketing Professional Services-Columbus, and Simpson Strong-Tie.

After graduation, Mezzopera plans to pursue a career in the residential building sector. He hopes to also pursue a career as an entrepreneur and earn a master’s of business administration degree.

An awards dinner to recognize all 25 CFAES Distinguished Seniors has been canceled due to COVID-19.

“The safety of our community is our top priority,” Neal said. “We are deeply sorry the planned celebration will not occur. The commitment and dedication of these students to their undergraduate education will still be recognized with a special award package that will be mailed later this semester.”

In autumn 2019, there were 2,486 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing 22 majors and 31 minors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs online by visiting <https://students.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/>.



LOUIS E. MEZZOPERA

CHARDON, OH

CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

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

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