

PRESS RELEASE**COURTNEY HEISER NAMED
2021 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Courtney Heiser of Attica, Ohio, has been named a 2021 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.

Heiser, an agricultural communication major from Seneca County, was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she 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.”

For example, Heiser was just two weeks into her new job at the Tiffin Seneca Farmers Market when the COVID-19 pandemic caused the market to close as part of lockdown. During that time, she created a new website and helped develop a plan of action for the 2020 market season. Her efforts helped local farmers and small businesses be successful throughout the pandemic and helped the market grow from five vendors at the first market last May to over 30 vendors in October last year.

After graduation, Heiser plans to work as a marketing specialist for Heritage Cooperative, where she will work with the marketing team to develop social media plans and generate digital marketing content.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s recognition of the CFAES Distinguished Seniors occurred via a YouTube Premiere video on April 7, 2021. Beginning at 7 p.m., CFAES dean and vice president for agricultural administration, Cathann A. Kress, recognized award recipients on the Ohio State—College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences YouTube channel. View the celebration video at go.osu.edu/CFAES2021DSA.

“Although we could not gather in person, this honor and these 25 students remain an important focus of our college,” Neal said. “Their commitment to their education and dedication to their time as a student



in CFAES was recognized with the YouTube Premiere video, and via social media and professional networking platforms. A special award package will also be mailed to each top senior.”

In autumn 2020, there were 2,457 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing 22 majors and 32 minors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at go.osu.edu/B4V2.



COURTNEY N. HEISER

ATTICA, OH

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

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

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