



**CFAES**

# **2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARDS RECOGNITION**



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**MARCH 23, 2022**

**NATIONWIDE & OHIO FARM BUREAU 4-H CENTER**



## AWARD RECIPIENTS

MADISON ALLMAN

GAUTAM APTE

MARYELLEN BLISS

ISABELLA BORRERO

AVERY BREWER

MALLARY CAUDILL

CAMDEN DEZSE

SHANNON DIXON

CORA DORMAN

AVA FORYSTEK

MEEGAN GOULD

DANIELLE HUTCHISON

MACKENZIE LANGE

SARAH LEHNER

ALISA MANCINI

ANDREW MOFFIT

ELIZABETH OHL

KATHERINE ORIYO

THANIA ORTIZ SANTIAGO

EMMA RAND

PRESTON SHEETS

ASHLEY STROUD

LYDIA TANTALO

EMILY THIMMES

BAILEY WARD

TYLER ZIMPFER

# **2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARDS RECOGNITION**



## **RECEPTION**

**MARCH 23, 2022  
AT 5 P.M. UNTIL 6 P.M.**

---

**NATIONWIDE & OHIO FARM  
BUREAU 4-H CENTER**

---

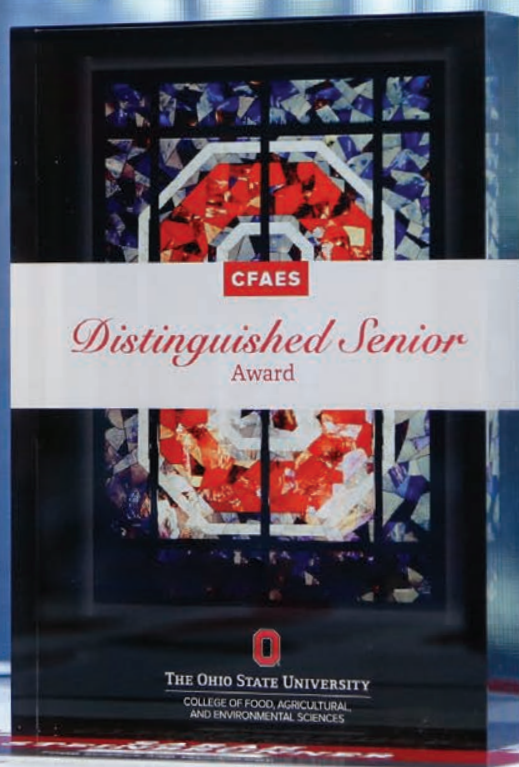
## **VIDEO RELEASE**

**MARCH 23, 2022  
AT 7 P.M.**

---

**VIEW ONLINE AT  
[GO.OSU.EDU/CFAES2022DSA](http://GO.OSU.EDU/CFAES2022DSA)**





CFAES

*Distinguished Senior*  
Award



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

# **2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARDS PURPOSE**

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.





## MADISON B. ALLMAN

CHILLICOTHE, OH

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP - COMMUNITY AND  
EXTENSION EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,  
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

Madison Allman's most valuable learning experience was her time as a student assistant at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center. As an aspiring Extension Educator, the experience afforded her the chance to develop lesson plans and educational

materials and organize a wide array of 4-H programs and events of all sizes. She helped coordinate 4-H Youth Exchange programs, bringing youths and adults from Costa Rica, Norway, and Japan to stay with Ohio 4-H families. Most recently she has assisted with 4-H Workforce Development initiatives, including an all-new program in conjunction with CFAES allowing Ohio 4-H members to receive college credit for their 4-H project work. In 2020 she received the CFAES Outstanding Student Employee award for her work.

In addition to her work for the 4-H center, Maddie worked as Student Fundraiser with the OSU Engagement Center, where she personally raised over \$5,000 for the University while connecting with Ohio State alumni, parents, and supporters. Maddie states that she learned a great deal about balancing professional, academic, and social responsibilities throughout her time at OSU, saying, "I am so proud of not only myself, but every single other student that does the same."

Throughout the last year, Maddie has pursued her own research project examining the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on Appalachian communities, with a case study revolving around her home community. Under the advice of Dr. Joe Campbell and Dr. Ken Martin, her project has shown great potential as one of the first needs-based case studies facilitated in Vinton County.

Maddie identifies Dr. Hannah K. Epley as her most influential mentor. She shared, "Hannah has supported my dreams 100%. I appreciate her responsiveness to my constant questions, her realism surrounding my future career, and inclusiveness into real-world experiences and challenges. Hannah is one of the most fun, exciting, and passionate people I know, and I always enjoy being around her. She truly has contributed to some of the most formative experiences of my college education, and I am forever thankful for her support."

As a first-generation college student, Maddie is proud to have paid her own way through college while maintaining several leadership roles on campus, making the Dean's List all semesters, attaining magna cum laude distinction, Scholar's distinctions, and Undergraduate Research distinction. She was further honored to represent CFAES, Ohio 4-H, and first-generation students on Ohio State's 2021 Homecoming Court, and recalls this experience as her most enjoyable at OSU.

Upon graduation, Maddie plans to pursue a master's degree in Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership, specializing in Community and Extension education, hoping to expand upon her research on Appalachian community development.

Service, involvement, and accolades: The Buckeyes First Student Organization, director of community outreach & founding executive member | SPHINX, secretary | Collegiate 4-H at The Ohio State University, president & outreach chair | Buckeye Leadership Fellows program | ACEL Alumni Board, community leadership student representative | Alpha Zeta Partners | Ohio State Honors & Scholars: Arts Scholars | National 4-H Conference Roundtable Facilitator | Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council, junior advisor & vice president of outreach



## GAUTAM A. APTE

SHAKER HEIGHTS, OH

FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AND WILDLIFE - WILDLIFE

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

For the last three years, Gautam Apte has served as Research Coordinator for the Ornithology Club at Ohio State. In this role, he coordinated the Lights Out Buckeyes avian-building collision monitoring program, a program that works under faculty supervision and in conjunction with the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative to monitor and mitigate bird-building collisions on OSU's

Columbus campus. Under his leadership, the program has made outstanding progress in research and practical efforts, installing collision mitigation measures on several campus buildings. The program has set an example for other universities hoping to get involved in similar programs, and Gautam's efforts have provided for the continuation of the program over the coming years. He views his part in the success of the Lights Out Buckeyes program as his greatest undergraduate accomplishment.

Beyond the Lights Out Buckeyes program, Gautam's four-year membership in the Ornithology Club at Ohio State was among his most enjoyable experiences. There he met Buckeyes from across the university community, took trips all over the country, and participated in numerous conservation initiatives.

Over the last three summers, Gautam has found employment at various organizations throughout the country in pursuit of his passion, including Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky, in the Lower Colorado River Valley of Arizona and California, and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Montana. His duties included mapping songbird territories in response to habitat disturbances, monitoring breeding populations of endangered species as part of a long-term study, monitoring nest success of high-elevation breeding birds in response to habitat changes, and more.

In these roles, Gautam gained valuable experience with various wildlife ecology field methods as well as the unique opportunity to live and work in truly remote and unpopulated areas, something he never would have had the chance to experience in Ohio. The chance to experience a completely different world of flora and fauna was also something he cherished. He reflected on the solitude and connection with the landscape he found: "I got to really know some of my study sites across different projects and become extremely familiar with every feature of a landscape, to the point of recognizing individual animals at work every day. I really enjoy getting to experience that as a regular part of a job."

Gautam identifies Dr. Chris Tonra as his undergraduate mentor. He shares, "Chris advises my undergraduate research at Ohio State, and has provided opportunities for me to gain valuable research experiences, as well as to guide me in creating and completing my own research project. I owe him a lot for the opportunities he has provided for me to grow as a student here at Ohio State."

After graduation, Gautam will go to work for the University of Oregon, taking part in a study in Central Nevada's Great Basin. Upon conclusion of the study, he plans to continue working as a seasonal field technician for several years, taking every opportunity to travel to new locales and experience new species and habitats.

Service, involvement, and accolades: The Ornithology Club at Ohio State, research coordinator | Lights Out Buckeyes Program



## MARYELLEN G. BLISS

ASHLAND, OH

### AGRISCIENCE EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,  
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

Maryellen Bliss has a passion for storytelling, agriculture, and finding the good in others and in the world; in her future as an educator, she seeks to align these passions. She is currently spending her final undergraduate semester as a student teacher, beginning the transition from learner to instructor and applying

her classroom education in a hands-on setting. She enjoys the opportunity to feel truly immersed in a learning space of her own, navigating lesson materials and student-teacher interactions, and discovering her own teaching style in a way that can only happen in the classroom.

Having been named a 2021-2022 National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) National Teach Ag Ambassador, Maryellen has been given the unique opportunity to promote agricultural education as a profession to prospective students. One of just eighteen pre-service educators from around the country chosen for the honor, she has spent the year attending conferences on agricultural education, networking with other future and current educators from around the country, and making lifelong friends along the way. She considers this honor her greatest undergraduate accomplishment.

Her time with the Agricultural Education Society stands as a highlight of Maryellen's undergraduate career. The oldest student organization on campus, Maryellen believes the society has persisted owing to the spirit of its members. Her fellow society members' zeal for actively promoting the values and messages of agriculture education throughout their personal and professional networks let Maryellen know that she had found her community. She expressed pride in her time as the society's President, reflecting, "Leading this organization has been one of the most rewarding things I was able to do in my undergraduate career. The torch of the oldest student organization was passed on to me."

As her mentor, Maryellen identifies Dr. Amanda Bowling. She shares the following: "Since day one I have always known she is in my corner. Moving to Columbus from a small town and becoming a student at this large campus was a tad intimidating and having Dr. Bowling as a constant in my life really helped shape my confidence in that first semester of college. She shows up daily as her authentic self, seeking and wanting the best for students and the future of agriculture education. That inspires me. I see her as a mentor and one of my role models."

In addition to internships as a counselor with Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation's ExploreAg camp for high school ag students in summer 2019 and as a Fellow at the Franklin County Farm Bureau in summer 2021, Maryellen has worked alongside her mother for their family business, Red Haw Supply, at Ohio State Tractor Pulls across the state throughout her time at OSU.

After graduation, Maryellen will seek employment as an agriculture instructor and FFA advisor in a high school setting. She looks forward to helping students become informed citizens and preparing them for successful careers in agriculture.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Agricultural Education Society, CFAES representative, treasurer, president | NAAE, National Teach Ag Ambassador | Kellogg-Moser Food Security and Sustainability Learning Community | OSU Jazz Swing Dance Club | Ohio Farm Bureau | Jacob's Porch Campus Ministry, student board president





## ISABELLA A. BORRERO

TAMPA, FL

### PLANT PATHOLOGY

#### DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY

Isabella Borrero grew up in a military family, calling no one place home, yet never lacking a community to call her own. When her family finally settled in Tampa, Florida, she applied to OSU at a friend's encouragement; she enrolled, first as a business major, and later transferred into CFAES's Department of Plant Pathology after a general education class exposed her to the

program's offerings. At OSU and CFAES, Bella found a similar sense of community to that which she fondly remembered from growing up on military bases.

As a non-STEM transfer into a science-intensive major, Bella was concerned that she was behind the curve set by her peers in research and other technical areas. Yet her circumstances eventually yielded her greatest sense of accomplishment when she made the Dean's List in spring of 2021 while carrying a demanding load of upper-level science-based courses; during this semester, as in all others, she simultaneously maintained her research responsibilities, her employment, and her community and extracurricular involvement. With the expert multitasking skills she's developed throughout her undergraduate experience, Bella feels undeterred by the prospect of working as a lab assistant and TA as she pursues graduate studies.

Her internship at the Bennett Species Interactions Lab, which began during her sophomore year via the STEP program, led to Bella's involvement in Dr. Antonino Malacrino's research examining the effects of rhizosphere biome manipulation on phenotype and genotype expressions in tomato plants. She and another undergraduate research assistant co-managed tomato plants, collecting and analyzing an array of data from petiole length to cellular respiration measurements, eventually collecting rhizosphere samples for gene analysis. When her internship ended, Bella stayed on as a volunteer at the lab until recently, when she joined the Wang Lab for Plant Disease Resistance and Functional Genomics.

Outside of the lab, Bella has enjoyed the opportunities her program has offered her to travel, from attending the Biosecurity in Practice and Theory Seminar at Kansas State to her trip to the University of Turku in Finland. Her passion for travel and the joy of connecting with new minds in her field fuels one of Bella's foundational beliefs. She states, "I believe collaboration, both internationally and between stateside Universities, fosters diversity in both people and ideas, which is a key ingredient for scientific advancement."

Bella named Scott Kelsey as her mentor and shared the following: "Scott was the lab manager at the Bennett Species Interactions Lab and trained me during my time there and often worked alongside me. He mentored me through the majority of my lab experiences and graciously helped with my graduate school applications and was just overall an amazingly kind and helpful person in my life."

Upon graduating, Bella plans to pursue graduate studies in Plant Pathology, Plant Biology, Plant Genetics, or Agricultural Sciences; in the long term, she hopes to work in plant resistance research or become involved in international efforts toward biosecurity and pathogen genomic research.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Sigma Lambda Gamma, Pi Epsilon Chapter, president | University-wide Council of Latinx Organizations (UCLO) Delegate | AmeriCorps VISTA - Festa Free Summer Lunch Camp, assistant site manager | See Kids Dream



## AVERY M. BREWER

HUDSON, OH

SUSTAINABLE PLANT SYSTEMS - PLANT BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

Avery Brewer's most valuable learning experiences came in Dr. Cooperstone's lab, where she is currently completing her senior research thesis. There she maintains tomato plants for her research project. The interdisciplinary nature of the lab's work appealed to her, and she appreciates the independence she has been afforded in designing her own projects. In the lab,

she has learned the finer points of experimental design and research logistics, and regularly meets with Dr. Cooperstone to discuss ongoing experiments and plan new ones.

The summer after her freshman year, Avery served as a crew member for Southwest Conservation Corps in Colorado. She traveled the state contributing to the organization's conservation efforts, helping on projects including restoring historic ranger stations, building ADA accessible trails, and cutting a reroute on the famous Continental Divide Trail. "The work was hard and wonderful," reflected Avery, "and left me with a better understanding of myself and the natural world." The experience numbered among her most enjoyable as an undergraduate.

In 2020 and 2021, Avery interned at Ikove Capital and Matrix Meats in Central Ohio, where she learned about the cutting-edge industry of lab-grown meats. In her role she gained perspective on the intersection of business and science, learning about start-up companies and the world of product research and development. In the summer of 2021, she worked at Corteva Agriscience in Des Moines, Iowa. There she found her greatest sense of accomplishment in a project that tested the specificity of a novel Cas nuclease; upon completion of the project, she presented her findings to the company's Genome Editing Group. While at Corteva, Avery set and accomplished numerous personal goals, participated in lab work and fieldwork, and cultivated meaningful professional relationships with managers and mentors.

As a member of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Scholars Leadership Council, Avery led the organization in engaging Columbus entrepreneurs, scheduling speakers and interviewing guests; she helped facilitate and organize events for members and guests, attended Philanthropitch, and oversaw the establishment of Launchpad OSU, an experiential learning program for student entrepreneurs.

Avery identifies Dr. Jess Cooperstone as her most important mentor, sharing, "Dr. Cooperstone's lab is very interdisciplinary, and I love seeing the way she and the graduate students synthesize ideas and applications across horticulture, food science, and nutrition. I feel infinitely more prepared for graduate school after working in Dr. Cooperstone's lab and getting to participate in lab meetings, assist with experiments and other projects, and complete my thesis. Dr. Cooperstone has been so generous towards me with her time and resources and I'm so happy to get to acknowledge her for the impact she has made on my college career."

A double major in philosophy, Avery will graduate in December 2022 and plans to apply to PhD programs with the following cycle, aspiring to find a program where she can combine the studies of crop science, evolutionary biology, and ecology. Before beginning a PhD program, she plans to travel and work on her German.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Entrepreneurship and Innovation Scholars, leadership council | iGEM competition | Pi Alpha Xi Horticultural Honors Society | STEP Program



## MALLARY J. CAUDILL

DEGRAFF, OH

### AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATION,  
EDUCATION, AND LEADERSHIP

Having begun her undergraduate career at Ohio State's Lima campus, Mallery Caudill has maintained a stellar record of achievement since coming to the Columbus campus. Her most rewarding experience has been her senior capstone class, in which she edits the *AgriNaturalist* magazine along with a team of agricultural communication seniors. At the *AgriNaturalist*, Mallery got to know her fellow seniors on a deeper level; she found that as a year-long experience, the capstone class necessitated a greater investment than other courses and motivated her to fully commit to her role as editor. She takes joy in collaborating alongside her peers to produce a one-of-a-kind annual publication.

From June 2020 to May 2021, Mallery held an internship with Ohio Corn & Wheat (OCW), where she assisted on teams responsible for the organization's policy, marketing, membership, communications, and education efforts. In the immersive, year-long program, Mallery had the opportunity to see numerous projects through from start to finish. She spearheaded a virtual D.C. Lobbying Fly-In, managing the schedules of legislators and advocacy teams, providing talking points and presentation materials, and applying principles of marketing and communication she learned in the classroom in a virtual setting. She received the 2021 Internship Award for her work with OCW and calls the internship her most valuable undergraduate learning experience.

In addition to her time at OCW, Mallery currently holds an internship at Inspire PR Group, where she has handled various agricultural accounts including the Ohio Poultry Association. She credits both her internships with increasing her confidence, improving her knowledge base on real-world issues, and expanding her understanding of the challenges and trends in today's agriculture industry.

Beyond her internships, Mallery also worked in the offices of OSU's Second-year Transformational Experience Program (STEP) and for the National FFA Organization as a facilitator. She also served as a page in the Ohio House of Representatives, which led her to a better appreciation for the state's legislative system and the importance of being a well-informed citizen. As a part of National FFA's Next Gen Program, Mallery had the opportunity to act as a mentor to high school students, facilitating career exploration and helping them prepare for the next steps after graduation.

Mallery would like to recognize Dr. Emily Buck as her most important mentor. Reflecting on Dr. Buck's influence on her undergraduate career, Mallery shared, "from the time I was a freshman, when she met me in a local coffee shop outside of her work hours to sit down and help me figure out my class schedule, to now, a senior about to graduate, Dr. Buck has helped support not only me but others academically and professionally beyond her job description."

A multi-passionate learner, Mallery looks forward to pursuing a career in agriculture policy, public relations, or journalism after graduation.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Ohio State Collegiate Farm Bureau, vice president, outreach officer | Ohio State Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow | CFAES Learning Community | Ohio Farm Bureau Young Ag Professionals | Ohio Corn and Wheat Collegiate Policy Academy | NASDA Next Generation Class of 2021 | H2O Church | American FFA Degree



## CAMDEN M. DEZSE

DUBLIN, OH

### ENTOMOLOGY

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

As a volunteer at James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute throughout his undergraduate career, Camden Dezse witnessed patients and their families in some of the most devastating circumstances one can encounter. While his experience was sobering, Camden also found it uplifting. He reflected, "It is truly inspiring to interact with individuals who act

so courageously in the face of disease, and it has been a privilege to help patients in any way that I can. I am frequently reminded that life is fragile and that many of us take for granted simple things from our daily life, which has made me value my friends, family, and education even more."

A double major in Biology, Camden's future efforts will combine his passions for entomology and medicine with a goal of specializing in the research and treatment of insect-vector-borne illness. He says the toughest aspect of this has been grasping what his professional life as a physician will entail. His most valuable learning experience came last semester when he had the opportunity to be matched with a physician preceptor. He spent the semester shadowing, learning how to interact with patients and effectively communicate sensitive and complex information, applying the skills he learned in all aspects of his life.

Camden's undergraduate research apprenticeship under the guidance of Dr. Sarah Short has sought to improve the mass-rearing process of sterile insect technique, a method of biological insect control, with a specific aim to make more sexually competitive mass-reared male mosquitoes. Relying on recent innovations in mosquito microbiota manipulation, Camden's research has largely unfolded without any prior template. This has presented many obstacles and a few disappointments, but afforded Camden plenty of opportunity for growth in overcoming challenges and thinking critically. Camden will present his findings at the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum this spring. He credits his time in the Short Lab for helping him find his academic niche, allowing him to combine his passions in a previously unimagined way.

Camden would like to recognize the mentorship of Dr. Sarah Short and shared the following: "Since I began my research as a member of the Short Lab, Dr. Short has welcomed and encouraged me to ask questions, make my own decisions based on evidence, and she has given me more freedom than I imagine I would have gotten in other labs on campus. The growth that I have achieved under the mentorship of Dr. Short is more than I could have asked for during my undergraduate career."

After graduation, Camden will prepare for the Medical College Admission Test in late August. He will then take a year to travel abroad, teaching English to school children in Japan, proceeding thereafter to Australia to continue his research of mosquito mass-release programs before finally returning to the U.S. for medical school.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Chrysalis, president | Health Points: Pre-Health Connections and Volunteering, president | Ohio State University's Honors Program Community | James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute volunteer | Wexner Medical Center's mass-vaccination effort runner | C.A. Triplehorn Insect Collection volunteer | Cornerstone of Hope's Camp Erin cabin leader | Grange Insurance Audubon Center volunteer | Neighborhood Services Inc. Food Pantry



## SHANNON L. DIXON

PALM BAY, FL

FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING -  
ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND  
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Shannon Dixon's most valuable learning experience has come as a research assistant in Dr. Andréa Grottoli's lab, where she has assisted in the production of an engineering prototype that will mitigate the bleaching impacts on coral reefs. In this role she gained experience writing research grants and had an opportunity to perform field experiments at Reef Systems Coral Farm, gaining valuable hands-on field experience. She credits her time in Dr. Grottoli's lab with cementing her interest in pursuing a PhD.

The successful defense of her undergraduate honors research thesis in her junior year offered Shannon her greatest sense of accomplishment. The culmination of two years of work, her study examined the effects of long-term temperature and pH stress on Symbiodiniaceae density in *Montipora capitata*, *Porites lobata*, and *Porites compressa* coral. Over the course of her research, she learned the proposal writing process, the use of technical imaging software, and how to present her research. Shannon recalls her joy after delivering her defense, sharing, "I had never been so elated to complete something. It was also really nice no longer hearing the script in the back of my head at all times." Funded by the National Science Foundation and H.W. Hoover Foundation with additional funding from an undergraduate research grant from OSU's College of Engineering, the work completed for Shannon's thesis was included in a larger published dissertation by Dr. Rowan McLachlan.

In addition to her scholarship and research, Shannon served as a peer leader in the First Year Success program, overseeing 289 first-year students during their transition to college. She conducted outreach initiatives and organized events designed to ensure students' academic and emotional success at the university. As a Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering recruitment assistant, Shannon met with incoming and current students to discuss the possibilities within the major. She gained perspective on the functioning of higher learning institutes; the experience helped influence her decision to seek a career in academia. Shannon also found a home on the OSU Club Swimming Team, which she joined her freshman year.

Shannon recognizes Dr. Andréa Grottoli as her mentor. She shared, "I have been working in Dr. Grottoli's lab since the end of my freshmen year. Throughout my time in her lab I have gained invaluable experience in analyzing data, conducting research experiments, scientific writing, and applying for grants/proposals. Without Dr. Grottoli's mentorship I would have never thought to pursue graduate school. Dr. Grottoli has gone above and beyond for me as a mentor and I am immensely grateful for all the opportunities I've gained from volunteering in her lab."

A native of Palm Bay, Florida, Shannon's grandfather was also a Buckeye. She fondly recalled the experience of attending a Big Ten game with him. Having been accepted into OSU's Earth Science PhD program, Shannon will remain a Buckeye for her graduate career. Her long-term goal is to combine her engineering background with her passion for coral research toward innovative solutions for coral bleaching.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Honors and Scholars Ambassador | OSU Club Swim Team, meet coordinator | Office of Diversity and Inclusion Peer Mentor



## CORA M DORMAN

CROTON, OH

### AGRIBUSINESS AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

When asked what undergraduate experience afforded her the greatest sense of accomplishment, Cora Dorman identified her extensive involvement in student and community organizations both on and off campus. From Mount Leadership Society Scholars to Alpha Zeta Partners to Alpha Sigma Upsilon, Cora feels

honored to have been voted into several leadership positions by her peers and appreciates the opportunity to be a part of something bigger than herself. As a weekly volunteer for Huckleberry House, a home for at-risk and homeless youths in Columbus, her work as a community liaison allowed Cora to make a direct impact on the broader community while deepening her understanding of the challenges of poverty.

Her 2021 internship at AgriGold provided Cora's most valuable undergraduate learning experience. As a sales intern covering an area stretching from Logan County to Muskingum County, she had the unique experience of working solo most of the time, setting her own schedule and providing her own transportation while carrying out her responsibilities. She credits her time at AgriGold with increasing her confidence and self-reliance, as well as improving her time-management and decision-making skills.

As a teaching assistant for Dr. Specht's Publication Design and Production class, Cora enjoyed getting to know and help her fellow students while developing her own communications skillset. She found the opportunity to spark an interest in agricultural advocacy within her fellow undergraduates to be particularly rewarding. Cora appreciated the chance to inspire the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs and equip them with leadership and critical thinking skills that will advance the entire agricultural industry. Outside of the classroom, Cora also found employment as a part-time Account Officer Trainee at AgCredit in Mt. Gilead, Ohio, where she continues to learn the finer points of the national Farm Credit System and financial operations in agriculture.

Cora would like to recognize Dr. Anna Parkman as her most influential undergraduate mentor. She shared, "she has shown a great commitment to students by staying late to answer questions, encouraging students to think critically, and by truly caring for her students. Dr. Parkman has also been an influential part of my college career by writing my recommendation letters for scholarships. Over the summer, I met with Dr. Parkman to discuss life after graduation (work/life balance) and graduate school opportunities. Dr. Parkman helped me solidify my plans for after graduation and put me at ease for the upcoming school year. I truly appreciate Dr. Parkman's positive influence during my college career at Ohio State."

After graduation Cora will continue her work with AgCredit full-time as an Account Officer, assisting farmers and rural Ohioans in navigating their financial needs. In the coming years, she plans to continue her education by pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree while continuing to work and maintain an active role at her family's grain and livestock farm.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Alpha Sigma Upsilon, vice president and other leadership roles | Alpha Zeta Partners, treasurer | Agribusiness Club | Mount Leadership Society Scholars Program | CFAES Learning Community | Licking County Farm Bureau | Ohio Agricultural Council | Garland Academic Excellence Award | Huckleberry House volunteer | YWCA | Mid-Ohio Food Bank | American FFA Degree





## AVA I. FORYSTEK

DUBLIN, OH

SUSTAINABLE PLANT SYSTEMS - HORTICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE AND CROP SCIENCE

As a plant scientist with experience in the field and in a university setting, Ava Forystek's summer 2021 internship with Corteva in Indianapolis was a chance to apply her skills in an all-new setting: the agriscience industry. As a part of Corteva's Plant Pathology Controlled Environment Discovery and Development Group, she learned valuable professional skills including collaboration,

teamwork, networking, and time management. There she assisted with various industrial fungicides currently in development, testing for various factors such as rainfastness, UV response, curative activity, and efficacy. She had the unique opportunity to shadow work in other functional areas including apiaries and toured a high-tech plant factory. Ava considers it her most valuable learning experience.

In addition to her time at Corteva, in 2019 Ava traveled to Peking University in Beijing, China for the World Food Prize Borlaug-Ruan Internship. There she assisted on a project investigating Rice Dwarf Virus by analyzing various auxins, auxin signaling pathways, and auxin signal repressors and their role in plant antiviral responses. Her work unfolded both in the lab and in rice paddies, an all-new experience for Ava. She considers her success in the internship to be one of her greatest accomplishments; she learned to have faith in herself and in her skills and gained confidence in her ability to thrive under any conditions.

In 2020, Ava was named World Food Prize Wallace Carver Fellow and worked with the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Geneva, New York. At the Viticulture Plant Genetic Resources Unit at Cornell University, she was responsible for identifying grape pathogens in a vineyard and helped train a machine learning algorithm for disease detection.

Ava took advantage of research opportunities as an undergraduate as well, assisting on a 2018-2019 project focused on restoration of the endangered *Trifolium stoloniferum*, or Running Buffalo Clover. She was responsible for the propagation of hundreds of new plants and helped reestablish natural populations of the species throughout Southern Ohio. DNA Ava extracted from known populations was studied to better understand the genetic variance between populations. As of August 5, 2021, the Running Buffalo Clover was considered recovered.

As her mentor, Ava recognizes Dr. Wendy Klooster. Ava shares, "She has assisted me throughout my graduate school application process, helped me achieve my academic goals, and has also supported my efforts with Pi Alpha Xi as its student organization advisor. Having been my professor, academic advisor, and student organization advisor, Dr. Klooster has been an important part of my academic career and time at Ohio State University. She has been incredibly helpful and supportive throughout my undergrad, and I am very thankful for all she has done."

An active four-year member and current vice president of Pi Alpha Xi Horticultural Honors Society, Ava is in the process of applying for graduate programs within plant sciences, with hopes of one day running her own research lab at a university.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Pi Alpha Xi Horticultural Honors Society, vice president and other leadership roles | Wallace Carver Fellowship



## MEEGAN S. GOULD

CINCINNATI, OH

### FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Meegan Gould has already accumulated a good deal of experience in the professional world of food science. As an intern at Wornick Foods in Cincinnati, she developed a new product from start to finish, formulating a successful match to the leading national brand of pudding; her product was even able to be converted to a high-protein product for use by the U.S. military and is currently being served to active-duty personnel. This experience served to reinforce her dream of becoming a food scientist, and numbers among her most rewarding experiences as an undergraduate.

While serving as a Product Development Intern at Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) in Erlanger, Kentucky last summer, Meegan gained a great deal of knowledge regarding the formulation and stability of energy drinks. Her work consisted of balancing formulations between flavor, acidity, and sweetness, as well as examining how those changes in formulation impact the stability of products. She participated in teams specializing in a wide array of products, from protein beverages to sports supplements and bakery products. Her principal project for the summer was even utilized by ADM's head of global beverage to implement and unify a stability process on a worldwide scale.

Beyond her internships, Meegan found time to engage in undergraduate research at the Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomic and Evolutionary Science (SEA-PHAGES) Laboratory, where she collected phages in order to extract and amplify DNA. The lab's findings are utilized by researchers to expand their knowledge of novel phages, making possible the development of bacterial infection therapies to combat superbugs—work with the potential to impact the future of medicine.

Meegan's most valuable undergraduate learning experience was her participation in the Institute of Food Technologists' Smart Snacks for Kids Product Development Competition. During the competition, she was able to apply coursework in an industry setting through market analysis, proposal writing, and more. Her team's product, Little Dippers, is an allergen-free chocolate dip made from beans, monk fruit, and cocoa. Though optimizing the formulation and process proved challenging, the entire team was proud of the finished product.

Meegan would like to acknowledge Julie Townsend as her undergraduate mentor. She shared, "I met Julie during my first visit to Ohio State as a student. During this visit she shared with me about the department and how excited they were to have me as a student. From then on, I recognized Julie as a friendly face, and I knew she cared about my academic and personal success. Throughout the years I have been able to work with her on projects for the department mentor/mentee program. She often offers life advice for now and in the future; she is more than willing to help me when I'm in need and only wishes me success and support in anything I want to accomplish."

Upon graduation, Meegan plans to use her degree to pursue a career in product development.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Food Science Club | OSU Club Swim Team | Food Science and Technology Peer Mentor | Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, chair of dining



## DANIELLE M. HUTCHISON

LEWIS CENTER, OH

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - PARKS AND RECREATION

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The most impactful experience of Danielle Hutchison's undergraduate career has been her time with the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Scholars community. A member of the organization's leadership council since her first semester, she credits her early involvement and the relationships cultivated

through ENR Scholars as laying the groundwork for a fulfilling college experience dedicated to learning, leadership, and personal growth. Along with co-executive officers and close friends, she helped lead the community through uncertain times, growing into an exemplary servant leader.

Having begun her work with the USDA Agricultural Research Service in 2018 as a lab assistant with no prior field experience, Dani points to her progress as a field researcher as her greatest accomplishment. Though her initial misgivings over her inexperience proved an obstacle, she learned to view every mistake as a learning opportunity. Her successful efforts led to multiple advancements, culminating in her promotion to USDA Biological Field Technician in January 2022. Throughout her time with the unit, she developed and conducted two independent projects examining snake sampling techniques, presenting her findings at the 2021 Ohio PARC virtual conference and the upcoming CFAES Undergraduate Research Forum this spring.

In 2021, Dani stepped away from academic instruction to serve a six-month term as an AmeriCorps Chainsaw Crew Member with the nonprofit American Conservation Experience. Her service took her all over the eastern United States, from the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee to Ohio's Cuyahoga Valley. Facing a diverse and all-encompassing set of challenges, she gained an unparalleled technical skillset for her future as a natural resource manager including certifications in chainsaw use, wilderness first aid, and CPR, along with practical experience in carpentry, tool and machine maintenance, and more. On the experience, Dani reflected, "I recalibrated my approach to life, redefining what it meant to chase my joy and came to realize that I am happiest when each day is spent engaging my mind and body for the greater goal of conservation."

Dani named ENR Scholars Coordinator Brett Baughman as her mentor and shared the following: "He celebrates my victories with me, has helped me work through challenges time and time again, and always offers valuable wisdom and joyful laughter. His belief in me and deep well of compassion afforded every opportunity for me to grow in confidence and leadership. His example taught me to dream big, reach for the stars, and give my all in everything I do. The passion he shows for what he does is so palpable, that I cannot see myself doing anything with any less gusto. Working with Brett during my time in Scholars helped me discover who I wanted to be as a leader, and he continually supplied the resources and encouragement to achieve that vision."

Following graduation, Dani will continue her federal employment with the USDA-ARS as a Biological Field Technician under Dr. Rocky Smiley with the Soil Drainage Research Unit. At the conclusion of the upcoming field season, she will travel to Spain, with plans to backpack the 500-mile Camino de Santiago.

Service, accolades, and involvement: ENR Scholars, leadership council and other leadership roles | College Mentors for Kids | OSU Community Orchestra | Buckeyethon



## MACKENZIE C. LANGE

COMMERCIAL POINT, OH

### CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Mackenzie Lange's most valuable learning experiences throughout her undergraduate program came not in a classroom but on a construction site. The hands-on experiences she had working as an intern at various sites around Central Ohio—data centers, warehouses, parks, medical facilities, and more—made

her classroom learning easier. The more time she spent on sites seeing buildings come together in real-time, the better she could visualize the process when learning about it in the classroom.

While at OSU, Kenzie had two internship experiences with area companies, Turner Construction and ASI Commercial Roofing and Maintenance. At both companies, she filled multiple positions including Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) Preconstruction intern, Assistant MEP Superintendent, Assistant Project Engineer, and Assistant Project Manager. Kenzie believes these internships will give her an edge on the job because she now has a good deal of experience on the jobsite itself, having built her familiarity with different components of building construction, her knowledge of trades, and other practical skills along the way.

During her internships, Kenzie had the unique experience of working on a large-scale campus site consisting of twelve data centers. As Kenzie shared, although conventional industry wisdom states "you never build the same building twice," this project came close to breaking that axiom. She found that this afforded her the opportunity to build each subsequent building better and more efficiently than the last, applying new lessons she learned with each successive iteration of the build.

In addition to her internships, Kenzie found time to work as a student grader for several Construction Systems Management courses. In doing so, she had the opportunity to help her fellow students master difficult concepts. She reflected, "the ability to teach another about something you are working so hard to learn yourself is the most rewarding thing, and this experience has opened my mind to the possibility of teaching in the future."

A first-generation college student, Kenzie's greatest sense of accomplishment came from funding her entire senior year through scholarships. Seeing all her hard work come to fruition in a tangible way proved to her that her efforts had been worth the energy.

Kenzie identifies Phil Sutton as her mentor. She shared, "you can tell how much he cares about his students, both inside and outside the classroom, and that goes a long way. Not only has he supported my educational and professional careers, always asking questions and showing he is interested, but he has also taken the time to reach out to see how I (and other students) are doing mentally and emotionally. A professor who cares this much and takes the time to get to know each and every one of his students is invaluable."

After graduation, Kenzie plans to accept a full-time offer as a Project Manager for ASI Commercial Roofing and Maintenance, where she will manage roofing construction on jobs throughout the Columbus area.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Construction Systems Management Club | AWARES Student Mentorship Program | 2020 Roofing Alliance Competition Team, co-captain | New Builders Heavy Civil Competition | Scioto Scrappin' and More 4-H Club, student advisor



## SARAH N. LEHNER

DELAWARE, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL INDUSTRIES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Growing up on a small dairy farm, Sarah Lehner always enjoyed being with the cows; it was not until her junior year that she truly committed to the life of a dairy farmer for herself. That year, while maintaining her academic, extracurricular, and internship responsibilities, Sarah earned her first Brown Swiss All-American nomination. The experience showed her that she could achieve

anything she set her mind to and proved the most rewarding of her undergraduate career.

Sarah applied her passion for dairy cattle as a member of OSU's dairy judging team. Her greatest success came at the 2019 World Dairy Expo's National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest when her team brought home OSU's first win at the event since 1986. She credits her team's extra preparation, and the fact that they had judged dairy together since high school, with the victory.

Her most valuable learning experience came through her management of the Buckeye Classic Sale, a registered dairy cattle sale hosted by Buckeye Dairy Club each spring. Her involvement in the sale grew each year; by her junior year, Sarah was Sale Chair, in charge of managing consignments. She called the experience the most difficult of her undergraduate career. Managing such a complex event with so many stakeholders, each with their own interests, taught Sarah the paramount importance of being her own advocate. She learned that if she didn't stand up for the best interests of the club, the event would not succeed. Serving as chair again in 2022, Sarah has applied the lessons learned in previous years to make the event an even greater success.

In the summer of 2020, Sarah was a sales intern at New Generation Genetics in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. She called it the most important step on her path toward a career in dairy cattle genetics. Handling a four-state territory, Sarah visited over one hundred farms, fostering sustainable relationships with customers and exceeding sales goals. She credits the internship with awakening her passion for sales. Throughout her undergraduate career, Sarah held a total of five internships, including a research position in Dr. Benjamin Enger's mastitis lab.

Sarah recognized Bonnie Ayars as her mentor and shared, "If you are dedicated, hardworking, and coachable, Bonnie will do everything in her power to help you succeed both in dairy judging and in life. She has helped me develop connections that have led to multiple internships and job offers, and helped me develop the skills necessary to excel in the dairy industry. I don't know where I would be today without the mentorship and friendship of Bonnie Ayars."

A first-generation college student, Sarah is graduating with a double major in Animal Sciences-Animal Industries and Agribusiness and Applied Economics. In May she will transition to a full-time role at Select Sires as Genomic Testing Administrator. She plans to continue developing her own elite herd of high type Brown Swiss and Holsteins.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Buckeye Dairy Club, president and other leadership roles | Buckeye Classic Sale, chair | CFAES Learning Community | American Society of Animal Sciences Undergraduate Scholar | National Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge | National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest



## ALISA A. MANCINI

GIRARD, OH

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - HONORS

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

As a future ecological restoration professional, many of Alisa Mancini's most valuable learning experiences took place at Chadwick Arboretum and Learning Gardens. Beginning autumn semester of 2020 with Dr. Davies's Practical Skills for Terrestrial Ecosystem Restoration course, the Arboretum hosted Alisa's best opportunities for hands-on learning, with weekly outdoor

restoration labs focusing on invasive species removal, erosion control, GPS/GIS usage, and vegetation surveying among other topics. Later, as a horticulture intern in the summer of 2021, Alisa continued her hands-on education at Chadwick, working to ensure the arboretum's daily maintenance while learning about the specific needs of each plant. The experiences combined for an education in the real-world practices of ecosystem restoration that will serve Alisa well in her future career.

The research completed as part of her SENR honors experience offered Alisa the chance to develop and execute her own field research. Her research project, begun in August 2020, involves analyzing water samples from below Alum Creek Dam to detect the presence of mudpuppy eDNA and is aimed toward determining the best season for sampling to ensure accurate eDNA detection. Samples are analyzed at the Peterman Lab in Kottman Hall and are then taken to the lab at The Wilds near Cumberland, OH for further analysis. Alisa is currently in the process of writing her thesis. She reflected, "Having the opportunity to do research as an undergrad while being provided with so many resources has given me an overwhelming feeling of self-accomplishment."

Through Growth International Volunteer Excursions (GIVE), Alisa had the opportunity to travel to Tanzania in July 2019. The program, which focuses on asset-based community development and creating positive relationships with host communities, saw Alisa teaching daily English lessons to fifth graders, aiding in the construction of a school office building, and working toward the establishment of a permaculture plot. She recalled the experience both as a chance to serve and an opportunity for personal growth. Alisa shared, "I learned about what it means to be a global citizen while promoting sustainable community development and making friends on the other side of the world."

Alisa identifies Dr. Matt Davies as her undergraduate mentor, sharing, "Over the three semesters that I spent as Matt's student, I continually found myself wanting to know more about the science and decision-making behind restoring ecosystems. It wasn't just the content that had me so engaged, but also Matt's teaching style. Matt made every class equally as entertaining as he did educational. He presented each ecological solution within restoration as both a science and an art. Matt's passion for the field has inspired me to pursue a career in ecological restoration."

Following graduation, Alisa plans to pursue employment in ecological restoration, with plans to work for several years before pursuing a master's degree in environmental resilience and adaptation.

Service, involvement, and accolades: SUSTAINS Learning Community | GIVE Volunteers, president and other leadership roles | College Mentors for Kids | Society for Ecological Restoration | SENR Ambassador | Buck-I-SERV | Columbus Zoo and Aquarium volunteer | Sustainability Institute's Women in Sustainability, student lead





## ANDREW J. MOFFIT

DUBLIN, OH

ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENT, AND  
SUSTAINABILITY - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Andrew Moffit completed two internships at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico over the course of his undergraduate program. In 2019, he served as a conservationist on a timber stand improvement project, learning the dynamics of mixed-dry conifer systems and the methods needed to manage

such regions. During his time at Philmont, Andy received an S212 equivalent chainsaw certification, allowing him to safely cut hazard trees and any tree up to sixteen inches in diameter. In 2021, Andy returned to Philmont in a management role, leading a crew of five in work similar to that which he had performed two years prior. He gained valuable knowledge and insight into forestry site management from an operations standpoint, learning in a hands-on manner and making professional connections and close friendships along the way. Andy was also able to further develop and refine his skills as a communicator and educator, teaching five thousand visitors from around the country throughout his time at Philmont.

Recalling his unique duties at Philmont, Andy shared the following wisdom: "The experiences where you learn the most are often the ones where you're closest to getting hit in the head by a big piece of wood." The experience of hiking through New Mexico's Sangre De Cristo Mountains with a sixty-pound pack, enduring extremes of temperature and weather, the daily trek from the tents where his team lived to their worksite high in the mountains and staring into the sunrise with his crewmates and close friends number among the greatest memories in his life.

As an undergraduate, Andy found his community at the School of Environment and Natural Resources, evidenced by his extensive involvement in the SENR Peer Mentor and Ambassador programs. His membership in Net Impact—a club encouraging sustainability in business—fueled his interest in promoting environmental stewardship within the private sector. Andy expresses his gratitude for the many amazing Buckeyes he had the opportunity to meet through these programs.

Andy would like to recognize Dr. Joe Campbell as his mentor, for whom he worked as an instructional assistant in ENR 3500—Community, Environment and Development during his time at OSU. Andy shared, "Dr. Campbell has been a mentor for all eight of my semesters at Ohio State. I met him before convocation and have worked for him for six semesters. He's always been one to give advice and is one of the best listeners I've ever met. He makes me want to feel included in the teaching process and I really value his support."

A Dean's List honoree many times over, Andy is on course to graduate summa cum laude in 2022. His capstone research project "Assisting Client in Developing Structure for Undergraduate Biodiversity Research Committee" draws upon skills learned in both his undergraduate major as well as his minor in Business. Upon graduating, Andy will pursue employment as an environmental consultant. His close relationships with senior directors in the conservation department at Philmont Scout Ranch have led to a current job offer as "camper conservation forestry director" for the upcoming season.

Service, involvement, and accolades: SENR Peer Mentor | SENR Ambassador | Buckeyethon | Mountaineers at Ohio State | Net Impact



## ELIZABETH M. OHL

ALEXANDRIA, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Elizabeth Ohl's most valuable undergraduate learning experience was her trip to Oahu, Hawaii to study human-animal interactions. Being fully immersed in a different culture was a valuable learning experience in its own right; Elizabeth was keenly interested in how those differences affected human-animal interactions. The experience offered her a chance to reflect on the ways in which

the culture, climate, and ecosystems of various locales can affect the human-animal interface with far-reaching impacts.

For four years, Elizabeth worked as an undergraduate research assistant in the Department of Veterinary Preventative Medicine's Animal Influenza Ecology and Epidemiology Research Program (AIEERP). While at AIEERP, she conducted surveillance for various infectious diseases in swine and white-tailed deer. In contributing to a wide array of research projects, she developed an appreciation for the intersectional nature of agriculture across the nation. She shared, "We exist in a market that must integrate expertise from multiple fields. Clinical medicine, food safety, public health and policy, environmental protection, education and outreach, and many more are critical in supporting a sustainable agricultural system across the world."

In addition to her work as a research assistant, Elizabeth was active in a number of student organizations. She is the current president of Towers Agricultural Honorary, the oldest honorary in CFAES. She served as a peer mentor, offering one-on-one mentoring in chemistry for pre-veterinary students. Within the Department of Animal Sciences, she has served as a teaching assistant for numerous courses, taking joy in the opportunity to encourage success in her fellow students.

A skydiving class she took last autumn semester offered Elizabeth her greatest sense of accomplishment during her undergraduate career. More specifically, she credits the conquering of fears she experienced in the course as contributing to her successful interview for OSU's Veterinary Medicine program. The experience reminded her that "any goal is achievable, and any challenge can be overcome with the belief in yourself and your abilities." Applying this lesson to her academic, professional, and personal lives, she found herself calm and confident throughout her admission interview.

Elizabeth would like to recognize Dr. Jacqueline Nolting and Dr. Andrew Bowman as mentors. She shared, "I am inspired by Dr. Bowman and Dr. Nolting's persistent hard work, dedication, and positive attitude, and I attribute a great deal of my own successes to them. The advice, guidance, and opportunities they have provided me to expand upon my experiences in veterinary medicine and research have been integral in the discovery of my curiosity for infectious diseases and development as a future professional."

After graduation, Elizabeth plans to pursue a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine, but has yet to decide on an institute. After completing the DVM, she plans to pursue a PhD in the interest of continuing her study of epidemiology.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Towers Agricultural Honorary, president | Academic Peer Mentor | Animal Sciences Undergraduate Teaching Assistant | Newcomb Scholar | Environmental and Natural Resource Scholars Program | STEP Program | Pre-Veterinary Medical Association | OSU Boxing Club



## KATHERINE R. ORIYO

REYNOLDSBURG, OH

FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AND WILDLIFE - HONORS

SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

A natural student throughout her life, Katherine Oriyo was not accustomed to being challenged by academic coursework. As such, her most valuable learning experience came when she enrolled in General Chemistry in the spring of her freshman year. The notoriously difficult class had her on the verge of feeling overwhelmed, but she decided to persevere after an inspiring

conversation with her mother. Learning to fight through adversity would prove the most valuable lesson of Katherine's undergraduate career.

Katherine would utilize this lesson when carrying out her undergraduate research project. As a member of Dr. Suzanne Gray's aquatic physiology ecology lab, Katherine spent two years studying the taxonomy and behavior of fish. Originally slated to unfold over 2020 and 2021, Katherine's independent research project revolved around comparing reaction distance responses in relation to turbidity increases in the invasive Lake Erie Round Goby and native Bluegill Sunfish. During the logistical planning phase of her research, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the closure of the Gray Lab as well as OSU's Stone Lab at Put-in-Bay on Lake Erie, precipitating a cascade of changes to Katherine's research plans over the coming semesters. Maintaining her perseverance and adaptability, Katherine amended her project, shifting its focus to comparing Bluegill and Green Sunfish in central Ohio. The lesson in flexibility was a valuable one. As Katherine reflected, "When completing a research project of any sort anything can happen. Doing research work requires a lot of trial and error and it's why having people to work with is invaluable. I am so glad and thankful for all the support I have had during the entire process and being able to finish my thesis and defend it before I graduate."

As a member of the student chapter of OSU's Fish and Wildlife Society, Katherine had the opportunity to network with fellow aspiring wildlife biologists, participating in volunteer experiences promoting sustainability including invasive species removals.

Katherine would like to recognize the mentorship of Dr. Suzanne Gray. She shared, "Dr. Gray has been a major influential figure during my undergraduate career since our meeting as she has been a stellar example of working as a woman in STEM research who worked hard to make me feel welcome and included in the lab. Having Dr. Gray as my mentor for these past two years has connected me to a fantastic figure to learn from and allowed me to meet so many other aspiring environmental scientists as well. I am grateful to be fortunate enough to work with her and I look forward to seeing what the future holds for the both of us."

After graduation, Katherine plans to step away from formal schooling for a year to explore her interests and expand her professional experience through internships. Eventually, she hopes to pursue a career focused on aquatic animal research, but desires to acquire a breadth of experiences in the meantime.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Fish and Wildlife Society, OSU Student Chapter | Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program | Best Food Forward | STEP Program | Ohio State Environmental Professionals Network Signature Event: Women in Conservation | CFAES Committee for OSU's 150th Anniversary, student board member



# THANIA N. ORTIZ SANTIAGO

TOA ALTA, PR

## FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Throughout her undergraduate studies, Thania Ortiz Santiago made the most of research opportunities. As a member of the Food S.U.R.E. program, she worked closely with faculty to develop and implement a research proposal. Having transferred from the University of Puerto Rico in Cayey after two years, Thania was unsure how much time she would be able to devote to research

while taking a full course load. As she became more involved in the Food S.U.R.E. program, she found an engaging and welcoming environment, and her desire to take part in research only grew. She took a position as a student research assistant in Dr. Rodriguez-Saona's lab, later accepting a microbiology technician position. Thania expresses her gratitude for the opportunity to pursue her passion through research.

Thania is proud to be a part of a community of food scientists whose work examines the potentially harmful health effects of artificial colorants that have become ubiquitous in the food industry. She aspires to contribute to the industry's efforts to transition away from these chemical colorants toward naturally sourced food pigments.

Her internship at Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams saw Thania applying her food science background in a research and development role. She had the chance to develop new ice cream flavors from concept to prototype, landing on a perfect flavor formulation and having her flavor produced for market. The experience grew her confidence, taught her to be resourceful, and allowed her to make meaningful connections with her coworkers.

As mentors, Thania would like to recognize Dr. Monica Giusti and Dr. Gonzalo Miyagusuku Cruzado. She shared, "Both Dr. Giusti and Dr. Miyagusuku Cruzado have been very supportive, welcoming, and helpful in getting my research proposal and work started which has been very encouraging. Although I was skeptical of how much I could handle between work and classes, they have made my desire to engage in research grow even more. I'm very appreciative of the experience I've had so far."

In order to balance her academic, internship, and research responsibilities, Thania abided by a few wise rules. She learned to always ask for help when needed; she learned to stay organized; she learned to always stay ahead. Reflecting on the tools that helped her succeed, she shared, "If there is no structure, you can easily find yourself overwhelmed at any moment."

Thania calls herself a food scientist at heart. She understands how food connects people, tells our cultural stories, our history, and affects our futures. Reflecting on her passion, she shares, "I want to help people of all ages understand the greatness that every meal we put on our dinner table holds." As a future food scientist and dietitian, she will seek to educate people about the foods they choose. While she is still considering options both at Ohio State and in Puerto Rico after graduation, Thania's long-term goal remains clear—to work in the food industry as a food scientist and registered dietitian.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Food Science Club | Student Dietetic Association | Food S.U.R.E Program



## EMMA K. RAND

GUILFORD, CT

FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING -  
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND  
BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Coming to Ohio State from Guilford, Connecticut, Emma Rand found herself a ten-hour drive away from friends and family; within the Columbus chapter of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), she found a new community here in central Ohio. Grateful for the

learning experiences and leadership opportunities her involvement with SWE afforded her, Emma considers her membership with the club her most rewarding undergraduate experience. Through SWE, she attended conferences in Raleigh, North Carolina and Albuquerque, New Mexico, connecting with potential employers, hearing powerful stories from other women engineers, and building new friendships. Emma reflected, "SWE has helped me become the confident woman engineer I am today."

Fulfilling a long-held dream to study abroad, Emma's most valuable learning experience came in May of her freshman year when she participated in the Castles and Cathedrals Study Abroad program. Through the program, she traveled to England and Wales to learn the history and architecture of the regions, acting as a tour guide to her fellow OSU students by presenting information about one of the structures on their tour.

Her summer 2020 internship at Bio-Med Devices in Guilford, Connecticut, fueled Emma's interest in manufacturing engineering. There she optimized the production of ventilators during the pandemic-driven demand spike. She developed test protocols for mass flow sensors and manifolds, analyzing the results to ensure they were within FDA specifications. She determined next to set her sights on a much larger company, settling on GE Healthcare. Over the course of the coming year, she reached out, with the help of OSU alumni in the industry, to GE. She also attended university networking events. Eventually, her hard work paid off, and she secured a summer 2021 manufacturing engineering internship at GE Healthcare in Madison, Wisconsin. She considers achieving this goal her greatest undergraduate accomplishment. While interning at GE, she worked on anesthesia machines, supporting daily updates during the investigation and reprocessing of legacy flow sensors. In collaboration with a cross-functional anesthesia team, her work was useful in understanding daily defect reports and determining the possible causes of assembly errors in these critical devices.

Emma recognizes Dr. Ann Christy as her undergraduate mentor. She shares, "I had Dr. Christy as my professor for a professional development class. In the class, Dr. Christy talked about professional engineering, industry, and academia which made me realize that I had selected the right direction going into biological engineering. This course also helped me understand that I could work in industry and then come back to teaching/mentoring which has always been one of my passions in life. I am extremely grateful for all of Dr. Christy's guidance and support throughout my past four years."

After graduation, Emma will be joining the Supply Chain Development Program at GE Healthcare, where she will hold three roles over two years in various plants throughout the United States. Throughout the program, she will focus on developing her skills as a leader.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Society of Women Engineers, outreach director and other leadership roles | College of Engineering Ambassador, president | STEM Exploration and Engagement Scholars Program



## PRESTON R. SHEETS

CORTLAND, OH

### AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

While studying abroad in Brazil with Alpha Zeta Partners, Preston Sheets gained a unique perspective on foreign agriculture and relations. During his time in Brazil, he studied under top educators at the nation's leading agricultural school, Lois De Quieroz College of Agriculture. The experience was the most enjoyable of his undergraduate career; Preston fondly recalls the breathtaking views, close friends, and the wealth of knowledge he received about Brazil's agriculture, natural resources, and environment.

Preston's internship at John Deere World Headquarters served as his most valuable undergraduate learning experience. As a marketing and product support intern on the small grains production systems innovation team, Preston found himself in an all-virtual environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Preston sought to capitalize on every opportunity while at John Deere, working with company employees in Canada and India on developing and refining small grain harvesting marketing strategies on a global scale. As a dairy sire marketing intern at Select Sires, Preston traveled to twelve different states over a twelve-week period meeting with farmers, evaluating sire daughters, and discussing how the company could improve the future of herds. As both of his internships were with companies active in global agriculture, Preston feels he's gained a well-rounded basis of knowledge on a variety of global agricultural systems. Above all, both internships afforded Preston the opportunity to meet and work with industry professionals who have had an impact in the agriculture industry and whom Preston is pleased to call his friends. He expresses his gratitude to CFAES for the chance to pursue these opportunities.

When COVID-19 halted in-person classes, Preston seized the opportunity to start his own dairy cattle genetic line. His greatest achievement came last year, when every heifer he exhibited at national shows placed in the top five and were then awarded All-American nominations. While at OSU, Preston worked numerous dairy cattle shows and sales around the country, providing excellent networking opportunities and the chance to work with some of the nation's finest dairy cows.

Preston's independent study with Peggy Hall, Esq., in conjunction with agricultural attorneys and farmers, helped formulate a short publication entitled "Ohio Ag Laws: A How-to Guide for Farmers," a functional guide intended to educate Ohio farmers on the basics of state agricultural law using easy-to-understand language.

As his mentor, Preston chose to identify Dr. Dewey Mann, sharing, "Dewey has always been easy to talk to and almost like a friend. He always pushes you to be better at whatever you chose to do, and you can always go to him for anything even if he isn't your advisor anymore. He changed my outlook on college during my first week as a freshman, and I still look up to him today."

Upon graduating, Preston will attend Cornell University to pursue a master's degree in Dairy Business and Genetic Management.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Ohio State Dairy Judging Team | Buckeye Dairy Club, corresponding secretary, sales committee chair | Agricultural Systems Management Club | Crops and Soils Club | CFAES Learning Community | Alpha Zeta Partners | Delta Theta Sigma, formal chair | National & Ohio Holstein Association | National Brown Swiss Association | National Red and White Holstein Association





## ASHLEY A. STROUD

SPENCER, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

The child of a second-generation dairy farmer, the dairy industry always held a special place in Ashley Stroud's heart. It was the CFAES Animal Sciences Dairy Science Certificate Program that provided her most valuable learning experiences, allowing her to further cultivate and hone her passion. Through the program, she competed in Dairy Challenge competitions at both state and

regional levels, gaining hands-on experience interacting with producers, veterinarians, and other industry professionals.

It was through this program that Ashley had the opportunity to intern with Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), the nation's largest dairy cooperative. At DFA's Eastern Laboratory Services in Medina, OH, Ashley gained a breadth of technical experience in lab divisions responsible for examining milk quality, components, chemistry, pathogens, and more. She traveled to surrounding counties to collect water samples, performing assays to determine the safety of drinking water in her home community and gaining valuable field experience.

As an active member of the Animal Science Community Alliance, the department's student leadership team, Ashley worked with fifteen other students to plan and implement a variety of events including the department's annual Back2School Bash and Winter Student-Faculty Mixer events. Through the organization, Ashley gave back to her community with programming focused on connecting students with support resources, as well as new student mentorship and prospective student outreach. Ashley called her involvement with the organization the most rewarding experience of her undergraduate career.

Ashley identified Mariette Benage as her mentor, sharing: "She is one of the most hard-working, student-focused people I know. She pours her entire heart and soul into this department, and I truly don't know what I would do without her. Mariette has served as my professor, advisor, and she has become one of my dearest friends. She constantly pushes me to be the best that I can be, and I admire her more than words can express. The impact she has had and will continue to have on our department is felt by many, but no act of gratitude will ever encompass all that she does for myself and students like me."

An employee of Campus Grinds through OSU Dining Services for over three years, Ashley has worked as a student manager at university-operated cafes across campus, where she honed her communication skills and learned to function well in high-pressure environments. Ashley expressed her gratitude for the healthy, growth-focused work environment. She also found employment facilitating peer-led learning workshops for introductory biology courses for five semesters.

A 2022 SPHINX honoree and first-generation college student, Ashley plans to attend veterinary school focusing on food animal medicine following graduation. Though her interest in veterinary medicine is long held, she credits her time at OSU with opening her eyes to the breadth of opportunities within the field and solidifying her decision.

Involvement, service, and accolades: Animal Welfare and Behavior Club, vice president and other leadership roles | Animal Science Community Alliance, president | Biological Sciences Scholars Program | SPHINX | Buckeye Dairy | Triota | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee | Pre-Veterinary Medical Association | Alpha Lambda Delta | Bucket and Dipper | ROMOPHOS | OSU's Leadership Collaborative



## LYDIA G. TANTALO

MANLIUS, NY

### FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Lydia Tantalo's summer 2021 internship with McCormick & Company provided her most valuable learning experience. The virtual internship with the company's Supply Chain and Global Procurement department presented several challenges; in addition to the virtual element, the role's business operations focus was something that Lydia had little experience with as a

student in a science-based program. Her success in overcoming those challenges was so complete that, come the end of the summer, Lydia was offered a position within the company's quality department. She shared the following wisdom gained from the experience: "Even if you feel like you've been thrown in the deep end and you're out of your element, hard work and confidence will bring you success."

Her most rewarding undergraduate experience came in May 2019, when Lydia participated in a one-month volunteer trip to Laos through GIVE Volunteer Excursions. There she spent her time participating in humanitarian and environmental service work. She taught English and helped break ground on a permaculture plot to transform a jungle floor into a stretch of ditches and mounds that within a few months would be thriving with food crops. She credits the trip with broadening her perspective on global cultures and contributing to her personal growth.

In 2019, Lydia received the Ohio State University English Department's First-Year Writing Program Award for Outstanding Research Paper. Awarded to the analytical research essay that best demonstrates excellence in analysis, academic form, and use of researched materials, the recognition offered Lydia her greatest sense of accomplishment. As a new freshman unsure if she was capable of the same degree of success she'd achieved in high school, Lydia viewed the award as a major confidence builder.

In addition to other internships at New Hope Mills and Cayuga Milk Ingredients, Lydia worked in the bakery at the Ohio State Culinary Production Kitchen during her undergraduate experience; she also found time to play cello in the Buckeye Philharmonic Orchestra and served as a Food Science Peer Mentor for three years.

Lydia recognizes Julie Townsend as her undergraduate mentor, sharing, "She consistently takes time out of her schedule to answer my questions and support me any way she can. She is always rooting for me and wants me to succeed, which is the best feeling. I thank her for her kindness, support, and faith in me as I made my way through my undergraduate career. She is the glue that holds us together, as she forms the connection between new students and the department. She has done so much for the department and for me, and it was a privilege to have worked with her in the mentor program for three years. Thank you for everything Julie, the department is beyond lucky to have you."

A native of upstate New York, after graduation, Lydia will move to Baltimore, Maryland to assume her role as Quality Rotational Analyst in McCormick's three-year quality rotational program.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Buckeye Philharmonic Orchestra | GIVE Volunteers | Food Science Peer Mentor Program | First-Year Writing Program Award for Outstanding Research Paper



## EMILY E. THIMMES

PIQUA, OH

### FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

#### DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Having made the Dean's List five times throughout her undergraduate career, it may be surprising to learn that Emily Thimmes's greatest sense of accomplishment came from receiving an A in just one class: Dr. Simons's Measurement of Food Perception and Liking, FDSCTE 5500. The class proved challenging beyond her expectations, and Emily found herself

putting in extra effort that had not been necessary for other classes, attending office hours nearly every week to help her grasp the complex and unfamiliar statistics involved. In coming up against concepts she had no prior knowledge of and that did not come naturally, Emily was truly challenged; by rising to the challenge and eventually excelling in the class, she gained an even more meaningful mastery of the subject matter.

Academically, Emily thrived throughout her undergraduate career, perhaps no more so than during her product development capstone experience. Through this course, she gained a clear image of what a future career could look like, not only from a scientific perspective, but from a business and operational perspective as well. In addition to her coursework, Emily served as a research assistant to a PhD student in Dr. Vodovotz's lab, working on a dough extensibility project.

Her combination of academic and lab experience led Emily to an internship at T. Marzetti Company where she served as a Quality Assurance Analyst. She gained valuable hands-on experience, learning the QA auditing process, troubleshooting product quality issues, and witnessing first-hand how the company managed operations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Emily was voted employee of the month in June 2021 by her coworkers and supervisors. The experience improved her ability to work and collaborate with a diverse team, led to better and more practical decision making, and grew her self-confidence in the lab setting.

As her mentor, Emily would like to recognize Dr. Mary Kay Pohlschneider. Emily recalls, "From the beginning of my time here at OSU, she made it feel like home. Going through Intro to Processing was my first taste of real food science, and she made it so easy to fall in love with. Since then, she has always been able to chat, help with any issues I'm having, guide me with internships, and has been integral to the Food Science Club as our advisor. I honestly couldn't have done the Farm Science Review without her and I am forever grateful for the friendship, advice, and support she has given me all four years at OSU."

Emily's extensive involvement on campus includes her work as an RA her sophomore year and service as a Food Science Peer Mentor. Her membership on OSU's IFT College Bowl team, which placed third nationally, numbers among her most enjoyable undergraduate experiences. After graduation, Emily plans to enter the workforce, pursuing employment in either research and development or product development.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Food Science Club, treasurer, president | Ohio State Welcome Leader | Science Olympiad | Food Science Peer Mentor | OSU College Bowl Team | Morrill Tower Activity Board, advisor



## BAILEY J. WARD

OAK HILL, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Bailey Ward is thrilled to represent her family as a first-generation college student. Her lifelong passion for food animals was sparked at home, where her family bred show pigs. She further explored her passion through 4-H, where she eventually went on to serve as club president. This lifetime of experience with swine served her well when she eventually was made a manager at OSU Swine

Center. Though taking a full course load and working nearly full time proved to be a challenge, Bailey proved more than capable of excelling in the role. She expresses her gratitude for being able to develop valuable leadership and time management skills in pursuit of her passion. Her proudest accomplishment lies in the positive work environment she was able to cultivate while managing at the center, stating that there is no greater joy for her than hearing her coworkers exclaim that they're excited to come to work.

During her time at the Swine Center, Bailey was involved in nearly every aspect of operating the facility, from ordering feed to staffing decisions to coordinating efforts with researchers. She personally took part in a Mass Depopulation Study in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which examined humane methods of swine herd depopulation, and several other studies related to animal feeding efficiency and methane reduction.

In 2020, Bailey completed an internship at a Boar Stud in Brayton Iowa for AMVC, the nation's ninth-largest pork producing company. While there, in collaboration with other industry professionals, she conducted research around the preservation of boar semen doses, evaluating new methods of cooling the samples without subjecting them to cold shock, thereby preserving the morphology and motility of the sperm cells. At the end of her internship, she presented her findings to AMVC management.

Bailey's most enjoyable experiences at OSU came from her time as a Teaching Assistant. As TA in two different Animal Sciences courses, she had the opportunity to teach labs, hold review sessions, grade assignments, and respond directly to students' questions and concerns. Whether in 4-H, as a Peer Mentor, or as a Teaching Assistant, Bailey has always taken great joy from educating learners in all contexts.

As her mentor, Bailey recognizes Dr. Sheila Jacobi, and shares the following: "She has been there for me for class and scheduling advice, put in countless hours to help find the best internship opportunities for me, and has allowed me to be a part of two different research trials with her. I also admire her dedication to her profession and look up to her in how hard she works to pursue her passion."

Throughout her time at OSU, she has held one clear goal: to become a veterinarian. Her acceptance into OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine stands as one of her proudest accomplishments. She is currently exploring program options as she considers what positions she would like to pursue in the future.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Club | OSU Boxing Club, secretary, coach | CFAES Peer Mentor | Animal Sciences Undergraduate Teaching Assistant | Jackson County Junior Fair Board, vice president, secretary | County 4-H Club, president



## TYLER T. ZIMPFER

ANNA, OH

### AGRIBUSINESS AND APPLIED ECONOMICS

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Throughout his undergraduate career, the relationships he has cultivated at OSU and CFAES have offered Tyler Zimpfer his greatest sense of accomplishment. Beginning with his residence in the CFAES Learning Community his freshman year, the friendships he has made have been not only rewarding and enriching but have changed him fundamentally. Tyler reflected, "Coming into college, I didn't consider myself a relationship-centered person. However, the greatest thing that I learned is that the people you surround yourself with will define a lot of what your life looks like." Conversations with faculty mentors have led him places he had never previously envisioned himself going; friendships struck up as a freshman in the CFAES Learning Community have continued to this day and will soon become professional connections. Tyler added, "I am beyond grateful for the people that surround me. I can't wait to support them and be supported by them for years to come."

His involvement in campus organizations offered Tyler some of his most valuable learning experiences. As a member and leader in Collegiate Farm Bureau, FarmHouse Fraternity, and CFAES Ambassador, he cultivated a leadership mindset but has never lost sight of the importance of being able to follow others' lead when necessary. He is grateful for the opportunity both to lead and, at times, to follow the capable example of fellow student leaders.

Tyler's summer 2021 internship at Valent, USA afforded him the opportunity to travel the country in his role as Industry Affairs intern within the company's Government and Industry Affairs unit. In Nebraska, Oregon, California, Washington state, and Washington D.C., Tyler engaged with key stakeholders and government officials, improving his confidence and refining his ability to effectively deliver detailed messaging on behalf of the company. He cherished the opportunity to experience the true breadth and diversity of American agriculture.

In his independent research study with Peggy Hall, Esq., Tyler examined the legal issues surrounding the lawful use of pesticides in Ohio agriculture. In conjunction with Professor Hall and other attorneys from across the state, Tyler closely scrutinized the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code, producing a paper describing actions available to landowners and community members to prevent legal entanglements in the lawful application of pesticides.

As his mentor, Tyler recognizes Associate Professor Peggy Hall. Tyler shared, "I first met Professor Hall as a junior in high school while job shadowing an attorney in Delaware, OH. At that time, I did not know that she would come to be one of my biggest supporters throughout my time at Ohio State, let alone if I would be accepted into the university at all. However, what began as just a lunch conversation turned into a mentorship that I am incredibly grateful for."

A first-generation college student, Tyler completed his undergraduate degree in just three years. Following graduation, he plans to attend law school. He credits his time at CFAES with deepening his interest in the law; he hopes to apply his future efforts toward the advancement of the agricultural community.

Service, involvement, and accolades: Newcomb Scholar | AFA Scholar | Collegiate Farm Bureau | FarmHouse Fraternity, administration vice president | CFAES Ambassador







Thank you to the 2022 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

BONNIE AYARS

BRETT BAUGHMAN

MARIETTE BENAGE

AMANDA BOWLING

ANDREW BOWMAN

EMILY BUCK

JOSEPH CAMPBELL

ANN CHRISTY

JESSICA COOPERSTONE

MATT DAVIES

HANNAH EPLEY

MONICA GIUSTI

GONZALO MIYAGUSUKU CRUZADO

SUZANNE GRAY

ANDREA GROTTOLO

PEGGY HALL

SHEILA JACOBI

SCOTT KELSEY

WENDY KLOOSTER

DEWEY MANN

JACQUELINE NOLTING

RYAN WINSTON

MARY KAY POHLSCHNEIDER

SARAH SHORT

PHILLIP SUTTON

CHRIS TONRA

JULIE TOWNSEND





2022

# CFAES DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

## ACADEMIC & SCHOLASTIC HONORS & ACHIEVEMENTS

The 2022 CFAES-DSA class of award recipients, collectively has much of which to be proud. Listed here are the many diverse and outstanding forms of recognition this group of students have achieved. The collective honors these students have accomplished exemplifies the truly amazing dedication all have demonstrated academically and scholastically.

### ACADEMIC AWARDS

Dean's List | ACEL Outstanding Senior | American FFA Degree | FABE Outstanding Senior | Garland Academic Excellence Award | American Society of Animal Sciences Undergraduate Scholar | Newcomb Scholar | Animal Sciences Outstanding Senior | ASDA Bronze Award | Ohio State University Department of English First-Year Writing Program Award for Outstanding Research Paper

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Undergraduate Research Distinction | Honors & Scholars Distinctions | 2021 Homecoming Court | 1st Place Team, North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge | 1st Place Team, National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest | All-American Individual, National Intercollegiate Dairy Judging Contest | 1st Place Team, Ohio State Animal Sciences Academic Quadrathlon | High Individual in Oral Reasons, Fort Worth Stock Show Dairy Judging Contest | BQA Certification | PQA+ Certification | BQA Transport Certification | Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation | Mount Leadership Society Scholars | ENR Scholars | SUSTAINS Learning Community | Kellogg-Moser Food Security and Sustainability Learning Community | Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program | Food S.U.R.E. Program | Entrepreneurship and Innovation Scholars | STEM Exploration and Engagement Scholars Program | STEP Program

### HONORARY SOCIETIES

Honorary Societies: SPHINX Senior Class Honorary | Alpha Zeta Partners | Agricultural Leadership Honorary | Pi Alpha Xi Horticultural Honorary | Towers Agricultural Honorary | Alpha Lambda Delta Freshman Class Honorary | ROMOPHOS Sophomore Class Honorary | Bucket and Dipper Junior Class Honorary





## SCHOLARSHIPS

Erskine 4-H Scholarship | 4-H Bob Evans Farms Scholarship | John T. Mount 4-H Achievement Award |  
Cunningham 4-H Leadership Scholarship | Ruth and S.N. McIntosh Memorial Scholarship | Ross County  
OSU Alumni Club Scholarship | Vinton County 4-H Scholarship | Distinguished Young Women of Ohio  
Scholarship Leadership & Spirit Awards | Smith-International Agricultural Fund Scholarship | Wolfe Study  
Abroad Scholarship | Honors & Scholars Enrichment Grant | Ohio State Fund Scholarships | Charlene Elliston  
Memorial Scholarship | W. Boyd and Clara A. Winbigler Scholarship | Ashland County Farm Bureau Schol-  
arship | OSTPA Scholarships | Ohio Farm Bureau Scholarship | Ralph E. Bender Scholarship | Pat R. & M. Susie  
Whittington Undergraduate Teacher Education Scholarship | Mary Dovenbarger Scholarship | C.S. Hutchison  
Scholarship | Provost Scholarship | Frank J. Schmidt Jr. Scholarship | William J. Skou Scholarship | McMunn  
Scholarship | Robert Stocklin Scholarship | Edward G. Mayers Scholarship | Gustafson Scholarship | Pressey  
Honors Grant | College of Engineering Undergraduate Research Grant | Ohio State Alumni Association  
Scholarship | Keener Endowed Scholarship | Engineering Dean's Scholarship | Morrill Scholars Prominence  
Scholarship | Licking County Foundation Scholarship | Ohio Soybean Council Scholarship | Ohio Agricultural  
Council Scholarship | Whitney B. Stout Scholarship | Ohio Agribusiness Association Agribusiness Club Schol-  
arship | Farm Credit Mid-America Scholarship | McCormick Scholarship | Panhellenic Association Scholarship  
| Licking County Farm Bureau Scholarship | Roy R. and Virginia Hyde Sultzbach Memorial Scholarship | Betty  
M. Edwards Scholarship | Licking/Knox Goodwill Scholarship | Joe Lesier Memorial Ag Credit Scholarship |  
Ohio Agri-Women Scholarship | OHBPA Scholarship | McComb 4-H Scholarship | Cunningham Scholarship |  
Alpha and Paul Haffey Scholarship | Bert W. Martin Scholarship | Roy M. Kottman Scholarship | Harry Moores  
Scholarship | Stemley Scholarship | Hildebolt Innovation and Entrepreneurial Scholarship | J.M. Smucker  
Scholarship | Shroyer Leiss Family Fund | Trustee's Scholarship | Dambach Memorial Fund | Simpson Strong-  
Tie Scholarship | William L. Muter Scholarship | Builders Exchange Scholarship | Board of Certified Safety  
Professionals Scholarship | AGC Education and Research Foundation Scholarship | Hamrick Scholarship |  
Ayars Memorial Scholarship | Jonard Family Scholarship | Ludwick Scholarship | Dairy Farmers of America  
Scholarship | Kaeser Family Scholarship | Nolan Study Abroad Scholarship | Ryan 4-H Agricultural





## SCHOLARSHIPS, CONTINUED

Scholarship | James Rhodes Scholarship | Ohio Agribusiness Association Dairy Scholarship | Salisbury Scholarship | Delaware County Foundation Westbrook Scholarship | National Dairy Shrine Sowerby Junior Merit Scholarship | Dairy Shrine Lancaster Sophomore Merit Scholarship | National Dairy Shrine Maurice E. Core Scholarship | National Dairy Shrine McCullough Communications Scholarship | Donald D. Mayhew Memorial Fellowship Fund | STEP Fellowship | Clarkson Memorial Scholarship | Helligman Scholarship | Philmont Staff Association Scholarship | Annabelle Hoge Fund | Barnebey Family Scholarship | Lucas J. Regula Memorial Scholarship | Robert Watson Scholarship | Maximus Scholarship | Licking County Foundation Raymond H. and Beryl Dean Penick Memorial Scholarship | Ohio EPA Scholarship | Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship | Robert C. Schneider Scholarship | Long Scholarship | Morgan Scholarship | Benson Scholarship | Wayne E. and Mildred K. Smith Scholarship | Ross/Abbott Laboratories Undergraduate Minority Endowment Scholarship | S&W Bailey Scholarship | National Buckeye Scholarship | OSU Society of Women Engineers Scholarship | Societal Society of Women Engineers Scholarship | Delta Theta Sigma Outstanding Brother Award | Ohio Corn and Wheat Scholarship | Jack and Judy Fisher Memorial Scholarship | OABA Ag Management Scholarship | Blickle Development Fund Scholarship | Benua Memorial Scholarship | Byg Scholarship Fund | Glenn McCuen Scholarship | Land Grant Opportunity Scholarship | Medina County Alumni Scholarship | Ruritan National Scholarship | Class of 2000 and 2006 Leadership Scholarship | J.B. Firestone Trust Scholarship | Student Council Scholarship | Wilbur Waite Canaga Memorial Fund | Daughters of Ralph J. Stolle Food Science and Technology Support Fund | Wilbur Moore Scholarship | Dager Family Scholarship | Dayton Milk Foundation Scholarship | LH & LB Burgwald Fund Scholarship | David Baird Scholarship | OSCO Industries Scholarship | William D. Squires Scholarship | Delma Roush Scholarship | William A. Burke Scholarship | PNC INST Investments Trustee Scholarship | Harold E. Delong Memorial Scholarship | James Miller Agriculture Scholarship | Jackson County Cattleman's Association Scholarship | Jackson-Vinton Farm Bureau Scholarship | C&D Smith Scholarship | AFA Scholarship | Mid-American CropLife Association Scholarship | FarmHouse Scholarship | Moser Scholarship | Thomas FFA Scholarship | Ag-Econ Fund Scholarship | Fogg Scholarship | Agribusiness/NAMA Fund





## 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;

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...

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

Copyright, 1916, by OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION.





HOW  
FIRM

THEY

FRIENDSHIP





**THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

— *We Sustain Life* —