

## PRESS RELEASE

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## MEEGAN GOULD NAMED 2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Meegan Gould of Cincinnati, Ohio, has been named a 2022 Distinguished Senior at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

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

Gould, a food science and technology major from Hamilton County, was nominated by college faculty and staff who felt that she personified the award's attributes of academic, disciplinary, and professional excellence.

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

Gould has completed three interesting internships during her time at Ohio State along with work in a biology lab, bringing a broad range of experiences as she pursues a career in food sciences.

At Wornick Foods (now Baxter's North America), Gould was tasked with developing a pudding to be used in ready-to-eat military meals.

"I was also able to convert this pudding into a high-protein pudding for the U.S. military, and it is currently on the menu," she said. "I am very proud that my work is being served to soldiers and that it provides them with essential nutrients they need in order to protect our country."

After a second internship diving deep into food sciences at Wornick Foods, Gould dived into the ingredient side of the business at ADM in Kentucky, working on energy drinks and other beverages. ADM used the work to make improvements in stability of energy drinks worldwide.

"Upon graduation I would love to use my education in order to start a career in product development," she said.

Gould has been a member of the Food Science Club and The Ohio State University Club Swim Team. She is a peer mentor for the CFAES Department of Food Science and Technology, and she was chair of dining for her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma.

She also volunteers to raise awareness and lessen the stigma of mental health issues, including making baked



goods to support Mental Health of America Franklin County. She has worked with the special needs community for more than seven years and has collected, donated, and read books for inner-city elementary school children through her sorority.

Due to persisting impacts of the pandemic, celebration of this year's CFAES Distinguished Seniors took place during a by invitation reception at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on The Ohio State University's Columbus campus on Wednesday, March 23, 2022. At the recognition celebration hosted by CFAES dean and vice president for agricultural administration Cathann A. Kress and associate dean and director of academic programs Steven Neal, recipients were presented with special award packages. A YouTube video recognizing the award recipients on the Ohio State—College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences YouTube channel was also released on that same day. View the recognition video at go.osu.edu/ CFAES2022DSA.

While this year's recognition took on a varied format from previous years for the 2022 recipients, Neal said, "We were pleased to be able to acknowledge their commitment to their education and dedication to their time as a student in CFAES by recognizing them with the YouTube video, and via social media and professional networking platforms."

In autumn 2021, there were 2,859 undergraduate students in CFAES pursuing 22 majors and 34 minors. Learn more about CFAES academic programs at go.osu.edu/ B4V2.



MEEGAN S. GOULD CINCINNATI, OH

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

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