

PRESS RELEASE

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EMILY THIMMES NAMED 2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Emily Thimmes of Piqua, 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.

Thimmes, a food science and technology major from Miami 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."

Thimmes is a member of the Food Science College Bowl team at Ohio State and helped the team place third in the nation.

"It has been very cool being able to learn food science trivia and compete with people I never thought I could ever help answer these questions with," she said. "It helped me to know I have more knowledge of food science than I think and to never be afraid to buzz in!"

Thimmes worked as a resident assistant in Morrill Tower, responsible for 67 residents, an experience that she says helped her prepare for work and an internship at T. Marzetti Co. in Columbus.

"Being an RA taught me to be cool under pressure, how to actively listen, and how to respond to a crisis," she said. "That really translated to my quality assurance job. The industry experiences I have gained working at T. Marzetti have been invaluable as I have been able to see a lot of different sides to the food industry and understand what I am interested in doing for a career."

She also has been a CFAES Department of Food Science and Technology peer mentor, welcoming incoming students and connecting them with their peers, and she served as president of the Food Science Club.

After graduation, Thimmes plans to continue working at T. Marzetti "in hopes to move to their innovation center to do more with microbiology or product development."



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.



EMILY E. THIMMES

FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

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