

PRESS RELEASE**BAILEY WARD NAMED
2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AT
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Bailey Ward of Oak Hill, 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.

Ward, an animal sciences major from Jackson 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.”

Ward, a first-generation college student, said her “lifelong dream” was to study veterinary medicine.

“I am blessed for the numerous individuals including my coaches, advisors, professors, teachers, and family who supported my journey along the way, starting as a Cloverbud to now as a graduating senior,” she said. “I am thrilled to represent as the first person in my very large extended family to attend professional school, and I am motivated every day to make them and my hometown proud.”

Since the beginning of her sophomore year, she has worked at Ohio State’s Swine Center, becoming full-time manager as a senior, responsible for about 80 sows and their piglets.

“Although stressful at times, I am beyond thankful for the leadership I developed while being able to pursue my lifelong passion for swine,” she said of the manager role. “Despite lack of sleep or personal hardships, in every activity I experienced, I put my best self forward to leave a positive impact on my environment and build myself to be the best veterinarian and role model I can possibly be.”

Ward has been an active teaching assistant for the introductory course for animal sciences laboratory and for animal handling.

“Last semester I was also honored to teach all the swine labs for animal handling,” she said. “I enjoy making a difference in the lives of others through education. To be the reason someone finds their passion for something, builds onto that passion, or simply is impacted by my education makes teaching much more rewarding.”

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**2022 DISTINGUISHED SENIOR AWARD****Academic Programs**100 Agricultural Administration
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She also completed an internship at AMVC AGT Boar Stud in Brayton, Iowa, and was active in the Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Club and Ohio State’s Boxing Club. During her time at Ohio State, she stayed active in Jackson County 4-H, including serving as president.

After graduation, Ward will attend veterinary medical school to become a food animal veterinarian.

“I am unsure yet if I aspire to be a swine-focused veterinarian, work for a large producer, or be more on the food-safety realm with the Food Safety and Inspection Service,” she said.

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.



BAILEY J. WARD

OAK HILL, OH

ANIMAL SCIENCES - ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

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

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