

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2006-2007



*Dedicated to the memory of
Dr. Kenneth Bowman
Faculty Member 1995-2006*



“Excellence in Agriculture”

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NEW FACULTY/STAFF

The School of Agriculture welcomed six new faculty/staff members this past year.

- **Dr. Ryan Anderson** joined the School of Agriculture in August 2006 as an assistant professor in Agriculture Systems Technology. Dr. Anderson received his B.S. in Agriculture Education from Illinois State University, a M.S. in Agricultural Science from Texas A&M-Commerce, and a Ph.D. in Career and Technical Education from Virginia Tech.
- **Dr. Iin Handayani** joined the School of Agriculture in August 2006 as an assistant professor in Soil Science. Dr. Handayani received her bachelors degree from Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia, a M.S. degree from the University of Arkansas, and a doctoral degree from the University of Kentucky.
- **Ms. Kris Ann Kaiser** joined the School of Agriculture as the Greenhouse Manager/Horticulture Lecturer in August 2006. Kaiser received her B.S. in Agriculture from Murray State University in May 2005 and an M.S. in 2006.
- **Dr. Whitney Oliver Peake** will join the School of Agriculture faculty as an assistant professor of Agribusiness Economics in August 2007. Peake received her B.S. in Agriculture from Murray State University in 2003, her M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Purdue in 2005, and will receive her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Purdue in December 2007.
- **Ms. Krista Dausman Stewart** joined the School of Agriculture as the Equine Center Manager in January 2007. Stewart received both her B.S.A. and M.S. from Murray State University.
- **Mr. Stacy Vincent** joined the School of Agriculture in August 2006 as a visiting assistant professor in Agricultural Education. Vincent received both his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and M.S. degrees from Murray State University. In addition, Vincent was named Outstanding Young Teacher in Agriculture for the state of Kentucky in 2003 and Outstanding Agriculture Teacher in Kentucky in 2004.



FACULTY EXCELLENCE

- **Mr. O.L. Robertson** was selected as the recipient of the Max Carman Outstanding Teacher Award for 2006-2007.
- **Ms. Sue Robinson**, lecturer/equestrian team coach, presented a paper at the National Youth Horse Leaders Symposium in Denver, Colorado in March 2007.
- **Dr. Jay Morgan**, associate professor of agriculture education, and **Mr. Stacy Vincent**, assistant professor in agriculture education received first place in the Innovative Ideas Poster Category of the Southern Association Regional Agriculture Educator's Conference held in Mobile, Alabama February 2007. This poster was also presented at the national conference of the American Association of Agricultural Educators in May 2007.
- MSU School of Agriculture is partnering with Ag Connections, Inc., a local precision agriculture and software company, to offer a new class in the Fall 2007 semester: Agricultural Records Management and Regulatory Issues.
- **Dr. Tony Brannon**, dean of the School of Agriculture, was selected to serve as the chair of the Kentucky Agricultural Council. This group was formed to develop a strategic plan for the future of agriculture in the Commonwealth. In addition, Dr. Brannon also spoke at the Milan Field Day in Milan, Tennessee regarding a switchgrass research project involving his family farm.
- **Dr. Jay Morgan** was reelected as the Murray State University Faculty Regent in April 2007. He will serve a three-year term and is currently serving as the board's vice chair.
- **Dr. Ryan Anderson** presented papers at the Southern Region American Association for Agricultural Education Conference, the Eastern Educators Research Association Conference, the Virginia Tech School of Education Student Association Research Symposium, and the Virginia Tech Graduate School Assembly Research Symposium. In addition, Anderson was the first faculty member in the School of Agriculture to offer a class through Elluminate.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM

- In response to regional requests, to support our Outreach efforts, and to Cooperate with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, the MSU School of Agriculture has added a Bachelor of Integrated Studies in Agriculture program to be offered through Distance Education. Following is a outline/description of the program.

BACHELOR OF INTEGRATED STUDIES IN AGRICULTURE

University Studies Requirements.....	45 hrs
Communication and Basic Skills	9 hrs
Science and Mathematics	11 hrs
Humanities and Fine Arts	6 hrs
Social Sciences	9 hrs
University Studies Electives	10 hrs
 BIS 399 Seminar.....	 3 hrs
 Research and Field of Study.....	 30hrs
Field of Study	19 hrs
AGR 330	3 hrs
AGR 379	3 hrs
AGR 433	3 hrs
AGR 439	3 hrs
AGR 543	3 hrs
AGR 547	3 hrs
Research Methods	6 hrs
Field of Study Project	6 hrs
 *Support Classes.....	 10 hrs
AGR 399	1 hr
MKT 350	3 hrs
MKT 360	3 hrs
FIN 330	3 hrs
 Unrestricted Electives.....	 32 hrs
Portfolio credits (max. 30 semester credit hours)	
Military and professional courses	
Credits from accredited institutions	
 Total Curriculum Requirements.....	 120 hrs

* or advisor approved electives



NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the generosity of alumni and friends, the School of Agriculture has received funding for five new scholarships to assist agriculture students in their quest to receive an education.

- ***Bernice B. and Ethel T. Boyd Agriculture Scholarship***
Dr. and Mrs. Louis J. Boyd of Bogart, GA donated over \$75,000 to start this scholarship in honor of parents. Boyd grew up in Graves County, KY on a family farm. Although he actually attended the University of Kentucky, he has always had a fondness for Murray State University. In order to be eligible for the scholarship students must be a full-time student studying agriculture, and preference is given to students from Graves and Calloway Counties. The first recipients of this scholarship will be Mindy Wright (Murray, KY) and Jonathan Miles Hargrove (Mayfield, KY).
- ***Brian Hobbs and Richie McClerkin Scholarship***
Brian Hobbs and Richie McClerkin are 2003 graduates of the School of Agriculture. McClerkin also received a Master of Science in Agriculture in 2006. Hobbs and McClerkin have pledged to donate a total of \$1,000 each year to this scholarship fund. This scholarship is for full-time students studying any field of agriculture, business, or related areas with at least one scholarship per academic year being awarded to a student residing in Carlisle or Fulton Counties in Kentucky. The first recipients for fall 2007 are Adrienne Wilson (Arlington, KY), Adrienne Black (Hickman, KY), William Rice (Hickman, KY), and Joshua Taylor (Fulton, KY).
- ***Richard McElroy Agriculture Scholarship***
J.C. McElroy has pledged to donate \$500 each year to the Richard McElroy Agriculture Scholarship. Richard, a 1995 School of Agriculture graduate and J.C.'s brother, passed away in December 2004. Recipients of this award must be full-time students pursuing a degree in agriculture from Union County, KY or the surrounding area. The 2007-2008 recipients are Lauren Omer (Sturgis, KY) and Mark Powell (Henderson, KY).
- ***Mary Murphey Nall Agricultural Scholarship***
This scholarship was started by Mr. and Mrs. George Murphey of Greencastle, IN in honor of his late sister. Murphey and his family were originally from the Graves County, KY area. The Murphey's have pledged to give \$5,000 each year to assist Graves County or Mayfield High School graduates. The recipients must be incoming freshmen or undergraduate students seeking a B.S. degree in Agriculture.
- ***Tosh Farms Scholarship***
Mr. Jimmie Tosh of Tosh Farms in Henry County, TN started the Tosh Farms Scholarship to assist incoming freshmen and undergraduate students studying the field of agriculture, business, or related area. Preference will be given to employees, family members of employees, and farm product related associates of Tosh Farms. In addition, at least one award per academic year will be given to a resident of Henry County, TN.

CTLT MINI GRANTS

Fall 2006

- Dr. Ryan Anderson & Dr. Dwayne Driskill were awarded \$1,000 to purchase a plasma arc cutting torch. *
- Dr. William DeWees, Dr. Jim Rudolph, and Mr. Dale Barnett were awarded \$1,000 to purchase a set of electronic scales for the equine facility. *
- Ms. Barbie Papajeski was awarded \$300 for a table top scale to be used in the AHT/Pre-Vet program.
- Ms. Sue Robinson, Dr. Jim Rudolph, Mr. Dale Barnett, and Dr. Jim Davis received \$1,000 to purchase hunt seat saddles for the equestrian program. *
- Ms. Dean Ann Provine received \$1,000 for the purchase of a Life Force Vet Pads Thermal Warming System. *
- Dr. Terry Canerdy received \$1,000 to purchase anatomical specimens for the AHT/Pre-Vet program. *

Spring 2007

- Dr. Lin Handayani received \$650 to purchase a soil core sampler kit and pH meter.
- Dr. David Ferguson was awarded \$334 to purchase instructional CDs for the crop science laboratory.
- Ms. Felicia West received \$750 to purchase an ultrasonic dental scaler/polisher for the AHT/Pre-Vet program. *
- Dr. Ryan Anderson and Dr. Dwayne Driskill were awarded \$1,000 to purchase auto-darkening welding helmets for ag systems technology. *
- Ms. Barbie Papajeski received \$790 for the purchase of stethoscopes and headsets.
- Mr. Dale Barnett, Dr. William DeWees, Dr. Jim Rudolph, and Ms. Krista Stewart were awarded \$1,000 to purchase a laboratory incubator and a digital centrifuge. *
- Dr. Dwayne Driskill and Dr. Ryan Anderson received \$500 toward the purchase of instructional videos for ag systems technology. *
- Ms. Sue Robinson, Dr. Jim Rudolph, Mr. Dale Barnett, and Dr. Jim Davis were awarded \$1,000 to purchase arena letters and chains for the new dressage arena at the Equine Center.

*Matching funds provided by School of Agriculture

INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE MINI GRANTS

- **Teaching Technology Upgrade:** Ceiling-mount projectors were purchased and installed in Applied Science 202S, 204S, 300S, and 401S and in the classroom at Carman Pavilion. In addition, tablet PCs were purchased for all tenure track professors.
- **Mr. Ryan Morrow** was allocated funds to purchase a new laser printer for the second floor Academic Programs office.
- **Dr. Iin Handayani** received \$1500 to purchase a visible spectrophotometer for the soil science laboratory. Funds were also allocated for the purchase of a refrigerator to be used in soil science classes.
- **Mr. Stacy Vincent** was awarded funds to purchase instructional materials for agricultural education classes.
- **Ms. Dean Ann Provine** received funds to purchase a centrifuge for the AHT/Pre-Vet program.
- **Ms. Felicia West** received funds for the purchase of new refractometers for the AHT/Pre-Vet program.
- **Dr. Terry Canerdy** was awarded funds to purchase a new blood chemistry machine for the AHT/Pre-Vet program.
- **Dr. Ryan Anderson** was awarded funds to purchase Mac tools to be used in ag systems technology. Matching funds were provided by the tool company.
- **Dr. David Ferguson** received funds to purchase a computer for the crop science laboratory.

GRADUATE RESEARCH

December 2006 and May 2007 Graduate Students participated in research projects as part of their Master's Degree program requirements.

- Sallieann Atkins (Paris, TN)
Advisor: Dr. James Davis, Animal/Equine Science Dept. Head
Thesis: *Evaluating a Non-Traditional Method of Raising Litopenaeus Vannamei Marine Shrimp Using Bacterial Filters*
- Dava Hayden (Paducah, KY)
Advisor: Dr. Pat Williams, Associate Professor of Horticulture
Thesis: *The Impact of Three Fertilization Methods Upon Growth and Cost of Production for Pot-In-Pot Zelkova Serrata Village Green in Western Kentucky*
- Jackie Minniear (Louisville, KY)
Advisor: Dr. Terry Canerdy, Animal Health Technology/ Pre-Veterinary Medicine Dept. Head
Thesis: *Effects of Undenatured Type II Collagen (OCC-II) in Moderately Arthritic Dogs*
- Andrea Stocker (Louisville, KY)
Advisor: Dr. Terry Canerdy, Animal Health Technology/ Pre-Veterinary Medicine Dept. Head
Thesis: *Safety and Effectiveness of Type II Collagen (UC-II) in the therapy of Arthritic Horses*
- William Scott Thomas (Morganfield, KY)
Advisor: Dr. James Davis, Animal/Equine Science Dept. Head
Thesis: *Strip Grazing Corn for Finishing Beef Calves in Western Kentucky*

STUDENT EXCELLENCE

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

16 School of Agriculture students prepared posters for Posters at the Capitol held on February 15, 2007 in Frankfort, KY.

- *Dark Fired Cured Tobacco: Comparison of Bloom Stages and Topping Heights in Dark Tobacco*
Carrie Elliott (Fancy Farm, KY), Justin Parrish (Murray, KY), and Chris Rodgers (Mayfield, KY)
- *The Comparison of Residual Herbicide Programs for Dark Fired Tobacco*
Brittany Collins (Murray, KY), David Crouch (Murray, KY), and Whitney Shirley (Clarksville, TN)
- *Nitrogen Sources Effect on Dark Fired Cured Tobacco*
Bryan Craig (Hazel, KY), Magen Roberts (Princeton, KY), Kaleb Tapp (Sebree, KY), and Robert Stuard (Trenton, TN)
- *The In Vitro Binding Effectiveness of Phyllosilicate Clays*
Jessica Lindley (Kirkwood, MO) and Teal Schultz (Rockton, IL)
- *The Short Term Effects of Worm Casting By-Products on Whitefly Reduction and Germination Rates in Greenhouse Production*
Erin Cathcart (Oakdale, IL), William Criner (Nashville, TN), Justin Sparks (Murray, KY), and Lauren Thompson (Benton, KY)

Bryan Craig, Chris Rodgers, Brittany Collins, Robert Stuard, David Crouch, Dr. Tony Brannon, Carrie Elliott, and Whitney Shirley are pictured with the combined tobacco research poster.



BREATHITT VETERINARY CENTER

The Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC) completed another successful year providing animal disease diagnostics for the veterinary profession, livestock commodity groups, and animal owners in Kentucky.

2006-2007 Caseload:

- **15,450** diagnostic cases processed
- 25% increase in caseload during past 5 years



Bacteriology/Mycology:

- **Dr. Shri Singh**, Department Head
- Processed **14,458** specimens for culture of fungi and bacteria
- New Staff: MarQuita Johnson, Lab Tech I
Clair Warren, Lab Tech II
Jarillys Marin, Lab Tech II
Jennifer Barbee, Temporary Tech

Pathology:

- **Dr. Louis Pittman**, Department Head
- **Dr. Lucky Pittman** was an invited speaker at the 2006-2007 Buffalo Trace VMA Morehead Clinic Days continuing education symposia in Morehead, KY.
- **Dr. Johna Veatch** is representing BVC on the State Animal Response Team and Emergency Preparedness and Response Committees.
- **Dr. Debbie Reed** is representing BVC on the Kentucky Agricultural Council's Task Force on the Future of Agriculture.

Serology:

- **Dr. Carey Laster**, Department Head
- Performed over **114,000** serological tests with **92,000** performed as diagnostic tests and additional **22,000** tests for state and federal regulatory programs including Brucellosis and EIA.

Toxicology:

- **Dr. Ramesh Gupta**, Department Head, was recognized as the MSU Distinguished Researcher for 2006. He is also the editor and contributing author of *Veterinary Toxicology: Basic and Clinical Principles* released for publication March 2007.
- Received **967** cases with **2,966** analyses.

Virology:

- **Dr. H. Kent Whitaker**, Department Head
- Standard operating procedures written for all available tests in order to comply with AAVLD requirements
- New Staff: Jami Carroll, Virology Technician

WM. BILL CHERRY EXPO CENTER



The West Kentucky Livestock and Exposition Center was dedicated on May 21, 1977. The 45,000 square foot arena includes a staging area, concession stands, classroom, offices, and seating for 2,748 spectators. Since the initial dedication, over 500,000 individuals have attended in wide array of events. The Expo was rededicated and named the William "Bill" Cherry Agricultural Exposition Center on April 21, 2006.

2006-2007 EXPO EVENTS

MSU College Rodeo: November 16-18, 2006

- 5 Regional Colleges Participating (300-400 students)
- 1,800 spectators
- Saddle Bronc/Bareback Riding, Calf Roping, Team Roping, Goat Tying, Barrel Racing, Bull Riding



American Quarter Horse Association Shows

- 2006-2007 Show Dates: October 21-22, December 9-10, January 20-21, March 31, April 1

Jan-

Tractor and Truck Pull: January 26-27, 2007

- Participants: 50 per night
- Spectators: 5,000
- Open 2 & 4-wheel drive trucks, Pro-stock 4-wheel drive trucks, Super-stock tractors



Bull Blowout

- October 13-14, 2006
- February 16-17, 2007
- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 5,000

Arena Cross

- December 2, 2006
- February 3 & 10, 2007
- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 3,000



Kelso's Mule Sale: May 5, 2007

- Fourth Annual Sale
- Broadcast live on internet at www.dvauction.com



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

The School of Agriculture hosted its annual Back to School picnic on August 28, 2006 at the West Farm Complex. Over 400 agriculture students, faculty, and staff attended “A Taste of MSU Agriculture” and sampled a variety of agricultural products.



Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed catfish, chicken, and ribeyes at the annual Back to School picnic.

RACER ROUNDUP

The School of Agriculture and Collegiate FFA hosted Racer Roundup on September 22, 2006 with over 500 high school students in attendance. This event is designed to promote leadership and team building among high school FFA members.



Collegiate FFA member, Sarah Baker, conducts a leadership seminar during Racer Roundup.

EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY



One of the most popular events at "Fall on the Farm" is the corn maze.

FALL ON THE FARM

The School of Agriculture and the Ag Leadership Council hosted the third annual "Fall on the Farm" October 18-22, 2006. Over 900 area elementary school students and more than 400 members of the community attended this event. Fall on the Farm strives to provide both an educational and entertaining agricultural experience to children and adults. Events included a corn maze, petting zoo, pony rides, pumpkin patch, straw mountain slide, straw maze, pedal tractor races, and milk cow demonstrations as well as educational sessions sponsored by the Kentucky Soybean Association and Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Local elementary school students had the opportunity to get up close and personal with a variety of farm animals.



EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY

EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE LUNCHEON

The annual “Excellence in Agriculture” luncheon was held December 4, 2006. This marked the second year for the event that recognizes outstanding students in the School of Agriculture. Students in attendance were nominated by faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to both the university and the School of Agriculture. This year’s guest speaker was Mr. Bob Arnold. Mr. Arnold, who has overcome blindness to become a successful governmental servant, delivered a motivational talk to encourage students to always strive to do their best.

TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

The School of Agriculture, Agribusiness Club, Agriculture Leadership Council, and the MSU Student Government Association teamed up to sponsor the first annual Toys for Tots Toy Drive in December 2006 in memory of the late Dr. Kenneth Bowman. The drive collected over 600 toys valued at over \$4,000, as well as \$500 in cash donations. The toys collected were donated to the family resource centers for Murray Independent and Calloway County School Districts.

Pictured from left are MSU School of Agriculture students Franklin Mitchell, Maryanna Pendley, Haley Millwood, Joel Perkins, Emily Bridges, and Christina Bowman, Dr. Bowman’s wife, along with five Murray Middle School students. Toys collected were delivered to Murray Middle School where Mrs. Bowman serves as assistant principal.



EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY

SOYBEAN PROMOTION DAY

The School of Agriculture and the Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board sponsored the third annual Soybean Promotion Day on February 8, 2007. This event provides area farmers and agribusinesses with an opportunity to attend informational sessions focused on current trends and developments in agriculture as well as soybean production. Dr. Lowell Catlett, regent's professor and dean of the college of agriculture and home economics at New Mexico State University served as keynote speaker. Other activities included a sponsored luncheon, concert by Tennessee musician and comedian Mike Snider, and Soybean Promotion Night at the MSU vs. Eastern Kentucky basketball game.



Approximately 250 area farmers, agribusiness representatives, and School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students attended Soybean Promotion Day.

Marshall County High School student Kayla Keeling reads her winning Soy Biodiesel essay during the opening session.



EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY

CAREER FAIR

The School of Agriculture and the Agriculture Leadership Council hosted the Agriculture Career Fair on February 28, 2007. Thirty-two companies were represented this year at the career fair, and over 300 agriculture students attended the event.



The career fair provides students with an opportunity to speak to company representatives in the field of agriculture.

ALPHA ZETA AWARDS BANQUET

The annual awards banquet is held in conjunction with the School of Agriculture career fair. Approximately 475 students, parents, and MSU faculty, staff, and administration attended the banquet. Clubs and organizations take this opportunity each year to recognize their outstanding members. In addition, the School of Agriculture also recognized its outstanding seniors.



MSU President Dr. Randy Dunn is shown presenting the 2006-2007 Senior Man and Senior Woman in Agriculture to Robbie Alexander (left) and Melissa Bramlet (right).



EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY

FFA FIELD DAY

FFA Field Day was held April 18, 2007 at the Wm. Bill Cherry Expo Center. Over 1200 high school students from Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, and Illinois competed in events such as livestock judging, tractor driving, tobacco judging, horticulture contests, goat tying, roping, and horsemanship.



MSU student Jolee Holderman assists with a horse judging class.

Judges watch with a keen eye as students participate in the tractor driving contest.



TWILIGHT TOBACCO TOUR

The Twilight Tobacco Tour was held August 7, 2006. This yearly event sponsored by the School of Agriculture and University of Kentucky Extension Service allows area tobacco producers to tour the University's West Farm complex and observe ongoing tobacco research plots. Research conducted during the 2006 growing season included fertilizer trials, herbicide trials, and experiments involving topping height.



Dr. Andy Bailey discusses the effects of nitrogen on dark tobacco during the Twilight Tobacco Tour.

EXCELLENCE OUTREACH/COMMUNITY



IFAL participants in School of Agriculture student Morgan Jenkins's group enlisted the help of Racer Patrol during their photo scavenger hunt.

INSTITUTE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURAL LEADERS

The School of Agriculture hosted the Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) June 10-14, 2007. IFAL is a leadership conference for high school seniors sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau. Forty-five students from across the state attended this year's IFAL, where they participated in team building and leadership development exercises. Participants traveled to Brandon Spring Group Camp to take part in their Challenge Course and later had the opportunity to tour Commonwealth Agri-Energy and Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville. In addition, the group met with Kentucky legislators Rep. Ken Winters, Sen. Steven Rudy, and Rep. Melvin Henley and participated in a Congressional Insight game. Students also competed in IFAL's own version of the Kentucky Farm Bureau discussion meet. Other activities included a photo scavenger hunt, Barnyard Olympics, and an opportunity to meet with School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students to get a first hand account of college life at MSU.



IFAL participants learned team building skills while they participated in the Challenge Course at Brandon Spring.

Elements of the Challenge Course included a spider's web and foot trolley.



**GUADALAJARA, MEXICO
JANUARY 7-13, 2007**

- 32 School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students traveled to Guadalajara, Mexico as a follow-up to a 2006 visit that established an exchange agreement between the University of Guadalajara and Murray State University.
- The group participated in agriculture related tours including visits to the University of Guadalajara farm, Desert Glory tomato greenhouses, Posta El Cuatro (large livestock operation), Flores Guadalupe (rose production), ALMER (grain storage and processing), Guadalajara Zoo, Jose Cuervo agave farm and tequila distillery.
- Participating students received credit for AGR 533 Seminar in International Agriculture Systems



*Lic. Eduardo Ramírez Peña,
Director of Posta El Cuatro,
gives an overview of the
ranch's operations.*

*MSU faculty, staff, and students
are pictured at the Guadalajara
Zoo joined by members of the
Kentucky/Mexico Trade Office.*



INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- **MSU AGRICULTURE STUDENTS STUDENT TEACH IN BELIZE**
APRIL 14-MAY 11, 2007

Lyndsey Brown (Paris, IL), Nathan Conner (Carbondale, IL), Whitney Hand (Marissa, IL), and Robert Alexander (Hopkinsville, KY) spent four weeks participating in an international student teaching program in conjunction with the MSU Department of Education. Participants traveled to Belize where they were involved in classroom teaching and also had the opportunity to learn about the history and culture of South America.



School of Agriculture student Whitney Hand is shown with two of her students in Belize.

- **MSU FACULTY TRAVEL TO HUNGARY**
OCTOBER 2006

Three School of Agriculture faculty members traveled to Budapest, Hungary during the Fall 2006 semester. **Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Dr. Jay Morgan, and Dr. Bill Payne** met with university officials in Budapest in hopes of establishing an exchange agreement between MSU and their university.

- The School of Agriculture welcomed its first exchange student from Hungary during the Spring 2007 semester.
- **Dr. Iin Handayani** has been instrumental in arranging visits with Indonesian university officials. Plans are underway to establish agreements for both student and faculty exchanges with Indonesia.
- **Derek Cooke**, a senior agricultural science student and active soldier in the U.S. Army, is currently stationed in South Korea. He has had the opportunity to learn about native agricultural practices of the area, as well as study rice paddies, greenhouses, and livestock during his stay in South Korea while also taking courses through MSU and the military.

GRANTS

- **Dr. Ryan Anderson**, assistant professor in agriculture systems technology, **Mr. Ryan Morrow**, lecturer/technology coordinator, and Mr. Alex Young, 2004 B.S.A. are currently working on a project with Agforest Partners that will explore global positioning system options available to agriculture producers.
- **Dr. Iin Handayani** received a teaching grant to bring the worldwide perspective of agriculture into the American soil and plant science classroom. She also received a research grant to study the carbon storage capacities in pasturelands in Kentucky.
- The Department of Animal and Equine Science received a \$5,000 Grassroots grant from the Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP) to build a dressage arena. Work on the arena will begin in summer 2007.
- The Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board awarded **Dr. John Mikulcik**, **Dr. David Ferguson**, and **Dr. Iin Handayani**, agronomy faculty members, a grant to continue a long-term fertility experiment that has been ongoing since 1997. The research for the 2007 growing season hopes to further analyze results seen in previous years.
- **Dr. Jay Morgan** received funding from the Kentucky Soybean Association to conduct a consumer study to evaluate the use of soy biodiesel. Farmers and agribusinesses in the 22 western Kentucky counties were surveyed regarding the amount of biodiesel used in their operation and the reasons for utilizing alternative fuels.
- The School of Agriculture received a grant from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to host a field day for area agricultural producers. Demonstrations of new agricultural production practices and technologies relating to greenhouse/nursery production, beef cattle carcass evaluation, and aquaculture were offered by MSU faculty and students.

Goal 1: "The University shall support the internationalization of the campus and curriculum." (Institutional Goal 2.8)

- Four sections of SPA 106 were offered during the 2006-2007 academic year with a total enrollment of 68 students. Student evaluations on questions 1-4 were 3.7 combined for two sections in fall 2006.
- Twenty-two students and six faculty members traveled to Mexico in January 2007 as part of AGR 200 and AGR 533.
- Three faculty members traveled to Hungary and established agreements with Szent Istvan University and Tessedik Samuel College in Hungary, as well as agreements were established with University of Bengkulu, University of Lampung, Brawijaya University and Syiah Kuala University in Indonesia and University of Guadalajara in Mexico. An agreement with University of Debrecen in Hungary is in the process of being formalized.
- Dr. Iin Handayani, a native of Indonesia, was hired as an assistant professor in soil science.

Goal 2: "The University shall foster high faculty and staff morale and productivity." (Institutional Goal 3.2)

- \$5929.11 School of Agriculture Mini-Teaching Grants were awarded and distributed to faculty.
- \$15,095.36 was spent to purchase all tenure track faculty tablet PCs to support instruction.

Goal 3: "The University shall recognize the growing need to raise private funds and establish an ongoing comprehensive campaign to maintain excellence in all programs of the University, including student scholarships." (Institutional Goal 4.2)

- The Bernice B. & Ethel T. Boyd Agriculture Scholarship, Brian Hobbs and Richie McClerkin Agriculture Scholarship, Richard McElroy Agriculture Scholarship, Farm Credit Services of Mid-America Scholarship and Tosh Farms Scholarship were all established.
- Over \$425,000 in outside funding was raised by the School of Agriculture.

Goal 4: "The University shall conduct sustained recruitment operations in a five-state area and internationally to meet the enrollment goals established by the Council on Postsecondary Education and the Board of Regents." (School of Agriculture Goal 1)

- Faculty, staff and ambassadors made 31 high school/community colleges visits; attended 26 high school FFA banquets; collected over 2,500 student information cards at 23 agricultural events; contacted 625 prospective students via email, mail and phone; and hosted over 190 personalized student visits and over 100 students during campus visitation days.
- 135 students were enrolled in AGR 099 Freshmen Orientation.

Goal 5: "Students will indicate satisfaction with their educational experience in the School of Agriculture and what they learned in the Agricultural Science degree program." (School of Agriculture Goal 2)

- 98.57% of students rated the quality of instruction in agriculture as excellent or good.

Goal 6: "Students will demonstrate technical and professional knowledge required by individuals pursuing entry-level professional careers." (School of Agriculture Goal 3)

- 98.73% of students scored at least a proficient on the oral presentation rubrics.

**SPECIAL EVENTS
2006-2007**

Date	Event	Number of Students
8/29/2006	School of Agriculture Picnic (retention)	350
9/22/2006	Racer Roundup	517
9/23/2006	Kentucky Angus Association Field Day	1
9/26/2006	Regional College Fair	15
9/26-27/2006	Ag Safety Days	
9/30/2006	Racer Day I	9
10/2/2006	Purchase Area Soil Judging Contest	15
10/9/2006	Mini Racer Day	2
10/13/2006	Homecoming Banquet	
10/18-22/2006	Fall on the Farm (ALC Project)	
10/24-27/2006	National FFA Convention	163
10/29/2006	Lexington Reception	6
10/30/2006	Louisville Reception	4
11/4/2006	Racer Day II	17
11/4/2006	Agriculture Early Admission Day	32
12/5/2006	Ag Sales Contest	32
12/5/2006	Region II FFA Welding Contest	25
12/6/2006	Region I FFA Welding Contest	19
1/29/2007	West Tennessee Speaking Contest	59
2/13-17/2007	National Farm Machinery Show	100
2/10/2007	The Minority Future Teachers Institute	1
2/17/2007	Presidential Scholars Interview Day	4
2/19/2007	Mini Racer Day	8
2/28/2007	Ag Day (Career Fair)	220
2/28/2007	Alpha Zeta Agriculture Awards Banquet	460
3/13/2007	Purchase Region FFA Speaking Day	137
3/14/2007	Pennyrile Region FFA Speaking Day	191
3/31/2007	Racer Day II	21
4/6/2007	FFA Regional/State Officer Training	40
4/18/2007	FFA Field Day	1246
4/21/2007	Summer Orientation I	25
6/5-7/2007	KY State FFA Convention Career Show	
6/9-10/2007	Summer Orientation II	
6/10-14/2007	Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders	45
6/19-20/2007	Summer Orientation III	
6/28-29/2007	Western Rivers Livestock Clinic	
7/14-15/2007	Summer Orientation IV	
7/28-29/2007	Summer Orientation V	
Total:		3764

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

HIGH SCHOOL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE VISITS

Date	School	Number of Student Cards Collected
9/28/2006	Graves County High School	31
10/5/2006	Apollo High School	5
10/6/2006	Marion High School (IL)	15
10/29/2006	Lexington/Louisville Receptions	10
10/30/2006	Todd County High School	62
11/3/2006	Christian County High School	38
11/3/2006	Thomas Kelly High School (MO)	38
11/8/2006	Owensboro Catholic High School	24
11/8/2006	South Spencer High School (IN)	36
11/10/2006	Fulton County High School	20
11/10/2006	Hopkinsville Community College	17
11/14/2006	Murray High School & Calloway Co. High	2
11/16/2006	Carlisle County High School	41
11/16/2006	Franklin-Simpson High School	55
11/16/2006	Hardin County High School (IL)	52
11/16/2006	Rend Lake Community College	8
11/17/2006	Webster County High School	16
2/23/2007	Caldwell County High School	40
2/23/2007	Crittenden County High School	30
3/1/2007	Gibson County High School (TN)	22
3/2/2007	Henderson County High School	31
3/9/2007	Marshall County High School	71
3/10/2007	McClellan County High School	12
3/29/2007	Hickman County High School	13
3/30/2007	Trigg County High School	30
4/2/2007	Henry County High School (TN)	38
4/12/2007	Union County High School	4
4/13/2007	Logan County High School	40
5/7/2007	Pope County High School (IL)	18
4/26/2007	Calloway County High School	28
4/19/2007	Livingston Central High School	29



RECRUITMENT/RETENTION

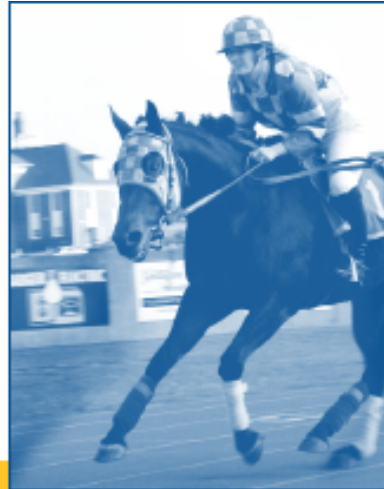
YEARLY SUMMARY

Prospective Student Visits August 2006-May 2007 August 2006-May 2007	173
Information Request August 2006-May 2007	562
Special Christmas Mailing December 2006	738
FFA Banquets Attended April-May 2007	26

RECRUITMENT/RETENTION



Murray State University Retention Fact Sheet



Began Returned	Fall 2000 Fall 2001	Fall 2001 Fall 2002	Fall 2002 Fall 2003	Fall 2003 Fall 2004	Fall 2004 Fall 2005	Fall 2005 Fall 2006
Overall Rate (full and part time)	71.9%	69.6%	67.6%	70.9%	74.0%	72.2%
(full time, baccalaureate seeking)	79.2%	71.3%	69.9%	71.6%	74.3%	72.6%
Female	72%	72%	68%	71%	77%	73%
Male	72%	66%	67%	71%	71%	71%
Admitted	79%	76%	74%	76%	80%	77%
Admitted with Conditions	55%	57%	55%	58%	54%	55%
Caucasian	73%	70%	68%	71%	75%	73%
African/American	64%	69%	58%	65%	63%	63%
Other	73%	62%	76%	75%	78%	60%
*Business and Public Affairs			57.9%	57.3%	66.4%	63.6%
*Education			46.0%	53.5%	63.3%	58.4%
*Humanities and Fine Arts			58.0%	58.9%	61.3%	66.4%
*Health Sciences and Human Services			58.7%	53.8%	57.4%	51.0%
*Science, Engineering and Technology			51.5%	54.6%	56.8%	60.4%
*Agriculture			63.1%	70.9%	79.7%	72.0%
*IDC (TSM, Undeclared)			44.9%	46.8%	45.7%	47.7%
*OVERALL to same college			54.1%	55.1%	60.0%	59.4%

* Student returned to the same academic college the following fall semester