

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2008-2009



“Excellence in Agriculture”



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FROM THE DEAN'S DESK



Another Great Year for MSU Agriculture! Your School of Agriculture continues to make progress to provide education, outreach and service to our students, our community and the Agricultural Industry. I hope that you will read this entire annual report to be informed of the many great things that have been accomplished within the past year.

I believe in the Future of Agriculture with a faith born not of words but of deeds....

As a ninth grader, I learned to recite these well known words of the FFA Creed. As a high school agriculture teacher, I taught them to countless students. As a university professor, I even learned to say the Creed backward to motivate my students to learn it. Through the years, I have always maintained my belief in the future of agriculture with a "faith born not of words". However, while serving as Dean of the School of Agriculture for the last five years and as an administrator for the past thirteen years, I have come to fully understand my belief in the future of agriculture. This belief is based upon the commitment of countless professionals, such as our School of Agriculture faculty and staff, that have made a commitment toward the goal of educating a very capable and growing number of students to

become established in agriculture – our most basic industry. I continue to be extremely proud of our two most important assets in the School of Agriculture...our faculty/staff and our students. Indeed there is a bright future in Agriculture.

Speaking of the future of MSU agriculture...

During the past year, we have worked on many projects important to the future of agriculture at MSU and in our region. Chief among these projects is our Capital Construction project for a new/renovated Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville. We were fortunate to obtain \$300,000 from Kentucky Agricultural Development Funding to conduct a feasibility study to analyze the effects of replacing or renovating the existing facility in Hopkinsville and to provide accurate cost estimates for the project.

We continue to work with the administration on efforts to pursue a much needed new University farm. This item has been included on the University's top ten Capital Campaign and Legislative Priorities list. During the past year, the MSU Board of Regents voted to establish a Task Force to study our Farms and Facilities and make recommendations. Several actions to support continuing initiatives were passed and are in the process of being implemented. Our current students, through the direction of the Agricultural Leadership Council, stepped up and out and suggested a Farm and Facility Fee on all agriculture courses to support a future additional farm laboratory.

Work is continuing on "The Arboretum at Murray State". This addition to our Pullen Farm will eventually be a showcase for our University and for our region. We were fortunate to obtain "jump start" contributions from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund, as well as some additional funding from Commissioner Richie Farmer of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Stay tuned for more details on this project.

We have been blessed with some wonderful donations to support agriculture and agriculture students during the past year. We would like to express our appreciation to Ms. Cindy Hutson for establishing a generous scholarship in memory of her late husband, Dan C. Hutson, II, for the benefit of students from agricultural backgrounds who wish to further their education in agriculture, business, or other approved majors. Continued appreciation is due to Tom and Theo Tuck who continue to support our Rodeo and Equine programs with funding, donation, and day-to-day support.

As far as students are concerned, we continue to lead the University in recruitment and retention success. Last fall, we had 172 freshmen students join us in the School of Agriculture. Once again this year, the School of Agriculture led the way in the University retention efforts.

Lastly, your Agricultural Alumni Executive committee decided on several Alumni Association changes for this year. We will host a Dean's Circle luncheon at noon on homecoming, followed by a "Friends of the Arboretum" kickoff celebration at 3:30 and an informal picnic barbeque at 6:30 at the Pullen Farm.

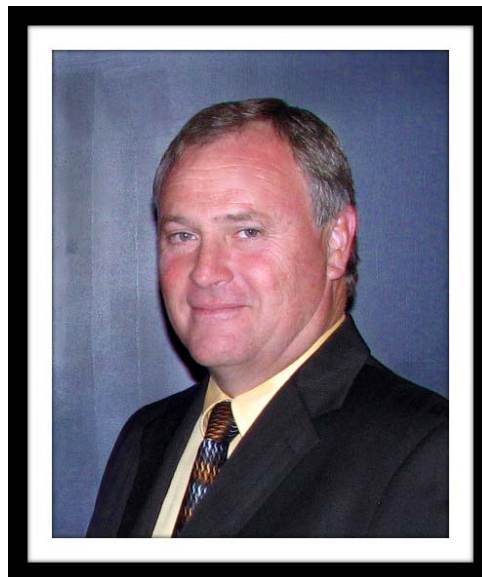
We are also replacing the annual newsletter by replacing it with an expanded Annual Report. Enjoy reading the contents of this report, and please continue to support the School of Agriculture with your input, your recommendations, and your annual fund donations.

From the Dean's Corner, I offer a tip of the Agriculture hat to our students, faculty, staff, and to each of our Alumni. As I always say, don't be strangers and "continue to make us proud".

Tony

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Mr. Johnnie Stockdale was presented the 2008 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus Award at the 46th Annual Agriculture Alumni Association Banquet on October 10, 2008. Stockdale is a Western Kentucky native and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in 1976, his Master of Science in 1981, and his Master's plus 30 hours in 1988. While at Murray State, Johnnie was very active in many agricultural activities, and he worked his way through school on the farm and at a local farm center. After completing his student teaching and graduating from MSU, he was employed as an Adult Agriculture Teacher in Christian County for one year and then transferred to Calloway County where he recently retired after 31 years. During this time, Stockdale has regularly taught 40+ adult classes per year and assisted area farmers and agribusinesses with agronomic, management, and marketing information. In 1978, he began managing the family farm consisting of 600 acres, a farm that he continues to operate today.



Johnnie's professional accomplishments are numerous. He has served as a director of the Calloway County Farm Bureau for over 20 years, a director of the Western Dark Fired Tobacco Growers Association for over 25 years, and a member of the Kentucky Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association for 32 years. He was instrumental in founding the Kentucky West Nursery Cooperative, of which he has served as President and a member of the Board of Directors. He is also currently co-owner and operator of a tree farm in cooperation with his son, Jamie.

Recognized as one of the most successful adult teachers of agriculture in the state, Johnnie has not only helped others by teaching, but also with economic development. As an example, after one of his adult agriculture classes, the majority of the farmers in attendance signed up for Group Risk Soybean Insurance the following day. After the drought later that summer, these farmers recouped well over \$1,000,000 in insurance payments. On another occasion, his in-depth inquiry into the way that the government had figured insurance payments led to action from Sen. Wendell Ford. Sen. Ford accredited Stockdale for leading the effort to bring millions of dollars into the Kentucky Agriculture economy.

As an alumnus of MSU, Johnnie has continually promoted the University and the School of Agriculture. He is a lifetime member of the Alumni Association and served as President in 1988. Since 1999, he had invested his spare time in teaching adjunct classes for MSU and is presently serving as Project Manager of the newly established Arboretum at Murray State. He is also a very close friend of Ms. Betty Hill and has been instrumental in the establishment of the Hill Family Agriculture Scholarship.

The son of James H. and Frieda Stockdale, Johnnie and his wife, Cathy, have two children: Jamie, an agriculture graduate of MSU, and Johnna, a graduate of the University of Louisville.

Johnnie has truly demonstrated the outstanding characteristics of an alumnus of Murray State University and has had a tremendous impact upon the past, present, and future of MSU agriculture. He has exemplified the combination of intellect, integrity, productivity, dedication, vision, and excellence that has led to his being named the recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus Award.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS



Ms. Hillary Spain was presented the 2008 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumnus Award at the 46th Annual Agriculture Alumni Association Banquet on October 10, 2008. Spain is a native of Hopkinsville, Kentucky. She attended Murray State University where she graduated Summa cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree in 2004 and a Master of Science in Agriculture degree in 2007. Not only did Hillary maintain a 3.9 GPA, but she was extremely active in School of Agriculture and University activities and was named the 2004 Murray State University Outstanding Senior Woman in Agriculture. In addition, she was an Agricultural Ambassador, SGA Senator, and was named the 2002 Miss Murray State University. While completing

her graduate work, Hillary completed a study on biodiesel utilization and wrote a thesis on the amount of soybean biodiesel being utilized in Western Kentucky.

Ms. Spain spent over two years working as the Sales Coordinator for H&R Equipment in Hopkinsville. In 2006, she had the opportunity to serve as an agriculturist in Niger, West Africa. Through the International Mission Board, she spent four months working with native groups on agricultural diversification projects while also teaching basic horticulture classes to over 400 students in the secondary school in the village of Gotheye.

Currently, Hillary resides in Memphis, TN and is a team member within BioDimensions LLC. BioDimensions is dedicated to helping farmers and rural industries compete in the global economy by developing alternative crops, farmer business networks, new processing, and local industrial markets. Markets include novel health, automotive, and plastics that have traditionally been manufactured from petroleum.

As part of this work, BioDimensions is working in conjunction with Memphis Bioworks Foundation to develop a "Regional Strategy for Biobased Products in the Mississippi Delta." This project entails working with 83 counties in four states to help develop a new approach to agriculture in harmony with creating new manufacturing jobs.

Among her many tasks, Hillary is the Coordinator for the *25 Farmer Network*, a group of West Tennessee farmers assembled to grow new crops, participate in value-added processing, and partner with companies producing biofuels and biobased products. This project is funded by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.

Hillary has also been a committee member in the "Sustainable Shelby" program initiated by Shelby County, Tennessee Mayor A.C. Wharton. The purpose of this program is to develop a strategic plan for sustainable development within the county.

Ms. Spain has truly demonstrated the outstanding characteristics of an alumnus of Murray State University and, in her short career, has had a tremendous impact upon agricultural issues in our Commonwealth and literally around the world. She has exemplified the combination of energy, talent, integrity, productivity, dedication, vision, and excellence that has led to her being named the recipient of the 2008 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumnus Award.

SUPPORT AWARD RECIPIENTS



MS. BETTY HILL

Ms. Betty Hill was presented a School of Agriculture Support Award on October 10, 2008 at the annual Alumni Banquet. The School of Agriculture was blessed by Ms. Hill through the establishment of the Hill Family Agriculture Scholarship and the Hill Family Agriculture Student Development fund. These gifts will serve as memorials to the Hill family's determination and spirit by assisting others in obtaining and completing an education.

The Hill family has strong ties to Calloway County. Ms. Hill's father, Marvin H. Hill was born and raised in Calloway County on a farm inherited from his grandfather. Mr. Hill was an active conservationist and worked in soil conservation for over 23 years. He was instrumental in securing electricity for Calloway County in the late 1930s.

Both Ms. Hill and her brother, Frank M. Hill were born in Calloway County and grew up on the family farm. Frank graduated from Murray State University in 1954 with a B.S. degree in Agriculture Science. He was a life-long Calloway County farmer. Mr. Hill passed away December 9, 2006 following a long battle with cancer.

Ms. Hill received a B.S. degree in Business Administration from Murray State University in 1951 and an M.B.A. from MSU in 1973. Following graduation, Ms. Hill worked for Paschall Truck Lines until 1973. She then worked for Hutson Chemical Company in the wholesale division for over 17 years. Ms. Hill continues to reside on the family farm just south of Murray.

Tom and Theo Tuck were presented a School of Agriculture Support Award on October 10, 2008 at the annual Alumni Banquet. The Tucks have been a blessing to the School of Agriculture through their service to the School and also through the establishment of the Tom and Theo Tuck Agriculture, Equine, and Rodeo Scholarship funds, the Equine Owners and Breeders Student Fund for Excellence, and the Rodeo and Horseman's Infrastructure Endowment.

Thomas E. Tuck was born in Martin, TN and grew up in Mayfield, KY. He attended Murray State University, where he met his future wife, Theo. Tom worked for General Tire in Mayfield for over 26 years. He then worked for 4 years for Swift environmental and 7 years for Wood Electronics. He later received his license in property, casualty, life, and health insurance and is currently employed by Adam Ford State Farm Insurance in Paducah, KY.

Mrs. Theo M. Tuck was born in Louisville, KY. She received her B.S. degree in Agriculture Science with an area in Horticulture in 1975 from Murray State University and her M.S. degree in Agriculture Science in 1978 from MSU. Following graduation, Theo worked for Ciba Geigy, ran a landscape business, organized estate auctions, and sold real estate.

In 1986, Tom and Theo established Spring Creek Farms, consisting of a grain operation and an Arabian and Half-Arabian horse breeding operation. The Tucks bred Arabian and Half-Arabian horses for over 22 years. During this time, they competed in the sport of Competitive Trail Riding and participated in both open and breed sanctioned horse shows throughout the Midwest and South. Their horses excel in western pleasure, hunter pleasure, dressage, working western, mounted native costume, trail pleasure, and halter.

Tom and Theo have been active in the Arabian Horse Association, the MSU Rodeo Booster Club, Kentucky Horse Council, Kentucky Equine Education Project (KEEP), and several area horseman's clubs.



TOM & THEO TUCK

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

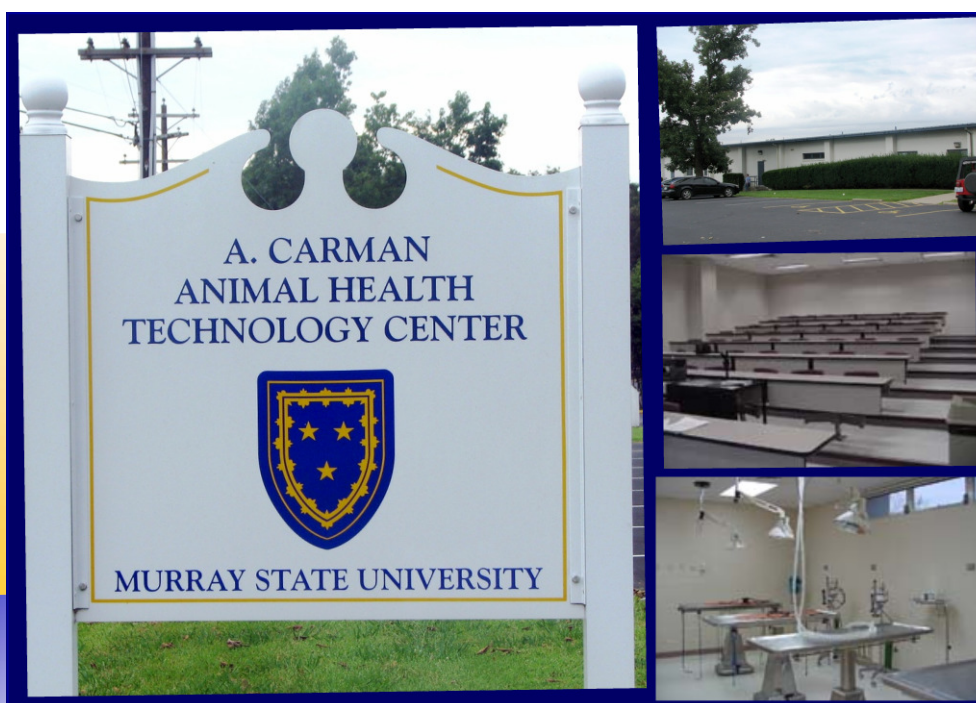
- Dr. Terry Canerdy, Dr. Jim Davis, and Dr. Dwayne Driskill were presented awards for 25 years of service at the 2008-2009 Faculty Recognition Banquet.
- Dr. Tony Brannon, Dean of the School of Agriculture, was presented with Kentucky Farm Bureau's award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture. He was honored during the organization's 89th annual convention at the Galt House Hotel (Louisville, KY) in December 2008. Dr. Brannon was also awarded the Kentucky Soybean Association's Distinguished Service Award in February 2009.
- Dr. Whitney Peake attended the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship Annual Conference held in California. Peake was selected as the Outstanding Reviewer for the Small Business Division of the conference. In addition, Dr. Peake was a National Agriculture Advocate Award Winner for Sigma Alpha Sorority.
- Dr. Whitney Peake presented her work at the Murray State University Annual Teaching and Technology Forum, Proceedings of National Agricultural Mechanics Contest Blue Ribbon Presentation, Murray State University International Education Week, United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Conference, SAEA 2009 Annual Meeting, and the AAEE 2009 Annual Meeting.
- Dr. Ryan Anderson was nominated for the Emerging Scholar Award. This honor recognizes faculty with less than five years of experience whom have displayed academic promise.
- Dr. Ryan Anderson had articles accepted by the *Southern Journal of Agricultural Education* and the *Journal of Agricultural Education*. In addition, he gave paper and poster presentations at the Proceedings of Southern Region American Association for Agricultural Education Conference, Proceedings of Eastern Educators Research Association Conference, and the Proceedings of National Agricultural Mechanics Contest Blue Ribbon Presentation.
- Dr. David Ferguson, Dr. Ilin Handayani, and Dr. John Mikulcik presented the poster *Previous Broiler Litter Fertilization Treatment Effects on Soybeans* at the Crop Science Society of America Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas.
- Dr. Ilin Handayani had articles accepted by the following peer-reviewed journals: *Advance in Sustainable Agriculture*, *International Journal of Soil Science*, and *Journal of Environmental Restoration and Monitoring*. In addition, she had several articles published in proceedings, book reviews published in the NACTA Journal, and gave numerous presentations at International Conferences as well as National and Regional Meetings.
- Dr. Ilin Handayani was nominated for the Murray State University Distinguished Mentor Award. In addition, her teaching proposal on Food and Agriculture Around The World was selected as one of the Residential College Seminar Classes.
- Ms. Sue Robinson was chosen as Livingston County's Kentucky 4-H Centennial Hall of Fame recipient. This award is bestowed upon individuals who have had the most positive influence on the 4-H program over the last 100 years.

AHT PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The Animal Health Technology Program recently underwent a strenuous review by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) to ascertain if the Association would continue to accredit MSU's current program. The AVMA site visit was held October 8-10, 2008, and Dr. Terry Canerdy and staff at A. Carman Pavilion were notified in March that the program was fully re-accredited until 2014.

The AVMA site visit team was very complimentary of the program, faculty, students, facilities, and farms utilized by the curriculum. Areas of concern for AVMA included the operating budget and completion of the two laboratories in the east end of A. Carman Pavilion.

The MSU Animal Health Technology Program received initial provisional accreditation in 1986 and full accreditation in 1991. The program has continued to be fully accredited since that time. As a result of the AVMA accreditation, the Animal Health Technology Program continues to grow annually, and expects record enrollments for the Fall 2009 semester. The support that the curriculum has received from alumni, University administration, and student organizations has allowed the program to offer different areas of interest for the current student body.



NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

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

- ***McKinney "Hoosier Pride" Scholarship***

Michael McKinney of Tampa, FL has established the McKinney "Hoosier Pride" Scholarship to assist students in the School of Agriculture that reside in Indiana. The scholarship was created in memory of McKinney's parents, Forrest and Elizabeth McKinney. The scholarship award will be based on financial need and leadership potential with special consideration given to students with five or more years experience in the 4-H Youth Program.

- ***Growmark, Inc. Scholarship***

The Growmark, Inc. Scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students studying agribusiness, agronomy, or agriscience technology. Recipients must have an agricultural background, and preference is given to students residing in Illinois. Recipients of this scholarship are honored at the Growmark Annual Meeting held each fall in Chicago, Illinois.

- ***Alpha Gamma Rho Scholarship***

The Alpha Gamma Rho Freshmen Scholarship was established to provide financial assistance to incoming freshmen that are interested in Greek life.

- ***Dan C. Hutson, II Scholarship***

Mrs. Cindy Hutson has established a scholarship fund to benefit students from agricultural backgrounds who wish to further their education in Agriculture, Business, or other approved majors. The scholarship was created in memory of Mrs. Hutson's late husband, Dan C. Hutson, II. Hutson was a Murray State University Alumni and owner of Hutson, Inc, a regional agriculture equipment dealership.



- ***Western Dark Fired Tobacco Association Heritage Scholarship***

The Western District Dark Fired Tobacco Association has established a scholarship fund to aid students with a background in dark fired tobacco production and pursuing a degree in Agriculture.

GRANTS/GIVING

- The School of Agriculture was awarded \$250,000 in grant funding from the Kentucky Equine Trust Fund. This funding will be used to offset the costs of construction of a new horse stall barn at the West Farm.
 - Breathitt Veterinary Center was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the Kentucky Agriculture Development Board to conduct a feasibility study to analyze the effects of replacing or renovating the existing facility in Hopkinsville and to provide accurate cost estimates.
 - The Breathitt Veterinary Center was the recipient of a \$191,000 Congressionally Directed Grant from US Congressman Ed Whitfield. The Congressionally Directed grant was for the purchase of equipment in support of diagnostic and research activities at the BVC and was administered by the US Department of Education.
- 
- The Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board awarded **Dr. John Mikulcik, Dr. David Ferguson, and Dr. Iin Handayani** a grant to continue a long-term fertility experiment that has been ongoing since 1997. The project is designed to provide insight into why differences have been observed in soybean productivity resulting from past broiler litter treatments. Past preliminary results suggest that copper may play a role, and this grant will also allow the nutritional value of copper in Western Kentucky soils to be evaluated.
 - **Dr. David Ferguson** has received a grant to evaluate Grain-Set and Initiate product effects on soybean yields in Western Kentucky from Improcrop, a division of Alltech.
 - **Dr. Iin Handayani** was awarded a USDA-ARS grant to conduct a study on forage systems for sustainable agriculture production in the mid-South, a Kentucky Water Resources Research Institute grant to evaluate carbon pool patterns in agricultural and forested streams along Kentucky Lake, and a CSIR grant to study soil quality changes following long-term manure amendment application.
 - The School of Agriculture received a grant from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to sponsor Fall on the Farm and other agriculture related Field Days.
 - The Office of Development has received over \$400,000 in out-right and in-kind gifts for the School of Agriculture. This total includes:
 - ✦ The donation of a Keifer Built aluminum stock trailer valued at \$15,000 to the MSU Rodeo Team by Midway Trailer Sales
 - ✦ A donation of 24 engines valued at \$8,000 to the Ag Systems Technology program from Briggs & Stratton
 - ✦ \$15,000 from the 2008-2009 Phone-A-Thon
 - ✦ The establishment of the "Friends of MSU Rodeo" fund through a generous donation by Tom and Theo Tuck
 - ✦ Several other individual gifts

RESEARCH & SPECIAL PROJECTS

MSU faculty, staff, and students are currently conducting the following research trials and special projects on the University farms. Many of these trials are the result of partnerships with other companies and institutions.

- *Kentucky Soybean Variety Trials*: Partnership with University of Kentucky
 - ✦ Group 3 Soybeans: 80 test plots
 - ✦ Early Group 4 Soybeans: 136 test plots
 - ✦ Late Group 4 Soybeans: 152 test plots
 - ✦ Group 5 Soybeans: 72 test plots
- *BASF Fungicide & Herbicide Trials in Grain Crops*
 - ✦ Headline application on corn: 31 treatments
 - ✦ Kixor efficacy in soybeans
 - Early pre-plant application: 36 test plots
 - Late pre-plant application: 36 test plots
 - ✦ Kixor efficacy in corn
 - Early pre-plant application: 36 test plots
 - Late pre-plant application: 36 test plots
 - ✦ Early application of wheat fungicide & flagleaf timing: 72 test plots
 - ✦ Caramba efficacy in wheat: 12 test plots
 - ✦ Fungicide efficacy in hail damaged (simulated) wheat: 8 test plots
- *BASF Herbicide Efficacy on Maretail*: 32 treatments
- *University of Kentucky Tobacco Trials*:
 - ✦ 12 trials involving Dark-fire cured, Air cured, and Burley tobacco
- *Grain-set & Initiate Product Effects on Soybeans*
 - ✦ Partnership with Improcrop: 16 test plots
- *Syngenta Corn Research Trials*:
 - ✦ Approximately 600 hybrid corn trials
- *Broiler Litter Study*
 - ✦ This is a long-term fertility study being conducted at the Pullen Farm to evaluate the effects of past broiler litter application on soybean productivity.
- *Grass-Finished Beef Cattle Study*
 - ✦ Graduate research is currently being conducted at the West Farm to determine the effectiveness of various forage species for finishing beef cattle for slaughter. Forage species utilized in the study include Marshall Ryegrass, corn, and sorghum-sudan grass. Cattle are weighed monthly and ultrasounds are performed periodically to determine carcass quality.
- *Mob Grazing Practices*
 - ✦ Mob grazing practices are being investigated in both beef cattle and equine. If effective, this innovational management practice will allow producers to decrease the amount of hay fed throughout the winter months, decrease pasture maintenance, and improve forage production. The equine grazing study will evaluate weight and body condition of Thoroughbreds and Quarter Horses exposed to a mob grazing system. Forage samples are being collected from the equine pastures on a monthly basis and soil samples will be analyzed at the beginning and end of the project.
- *Organic Waste Composting*
 - ✦ The School of Agriculture's Horticulture unit and the MSU Food Service program have joined forces to recycle food waste from the University's dining facilities. Food waste from salad bars, etc. is composted at the Pullen Farm and the resulting product is used as organic fertilizer for the farm's horticultural and kitchen gardens.
- *Pullen Farm Community Garden*
 - ✦ The horticultural staff at the Pullen Farm has set aside a small area of land to be used by members of the community who do not have space for vegetable gardens on their property. Since it's inception several years ago, the garden project has grown to include eight families, all of whom share close ties with the University.

FARM IMPROVEMENTS

During the past year, various changes and improvements have been made by School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students on the University Farms.

- *Construction of Equine Shelters*

Nine shelters have been constructed and installed in the equine pastures at the West farm Complex. These structures will provide shade and protection from the elements for the University's horse herd.



- *Installation of Pasture Irrigation System*

An irrigation system was installed in pastures utilized by the university's beef herd. A similar system is also in place in the equine pastures to help maintain pasture condition during drought conditions.

- *Heathcott Rodeo Barn Loft*

A loft has been constructed above the stalls in the Heathcott Rodeo Barn. The new loft will provide additional hay and equipment storage areas for students renting stalls in the barn, and help keep the aisles in the barn free from clutter.

- *Heathcott Rodeo Barn Landscaping*

Mrs. Theo Tuck has volunteered her expertise and services to give the area surrounding the Heathcott Rodeo Barn a facelift with a new landscape design.

- *Equine Pasture Drainage System*

A tile drainage system was installed in a 7.5 acre equine turnout lot. The former dirt lot was over-seeded with Bermudagrass and will provide additional pasture for the equine herd.

- *Rodeo Pasture Expansion*

Cross-fencing has been put in place to increase the number of pastures available for rodeo stock. This will also allow more intensive grazing practices to be utilized.

AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE

The Murray State University Board of Regents recently appointed a Task Force on Farms and Facilities to review the status of the three MSU farms and any structural improvements that need to be addressed.

Members of the Task Force made several recommendations to the Board, and at the Spring 2009 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the following items:

- To create a \$3.00 per credit hour laboratory fee on all School of Agriculture courses. Funds generated from the implementation of this fee will be used toward the purchase of a new University farm in the future.
- To complete the unfinished laboratory portions of A. Carmen Animal Health Technology Pavilion.
- To build a replacement barn for one of the existing University horse stall barns at the West Farm Complex using Equine Trust Fund monies.

Faculty Regent, Dr. Jay Morgan expresses sincere thanks to all Task Force members, administrators, and all others who worked for the benefit and support of these endeavors on behalf of the Board of Regents.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- The ladies of Sigma Alpha were recognized at the 2008 National Convention held in October in San Mateo, CA. The organization received the Emerald Chapter Award, 2nd place Outstanding Professional Development, 2nd place Outstanding Sisterhood, 3rd place Outstanding Leader (Morgan Jenkins), 3rd place Most Improved Chapter Scholarship, and 2nd place Outstanding Scholarship.
- The Collegiate FFA attended the 2008 National FFA Convention October 21-24 in Indianapolis, IN. The Debate Team placed 2nd in national competition, and the group was recognized for Outstanding Fundraiser in the Program of Excellence. Parliamentary Procedure Team member Becky Mosbacher was also awarded 1st place secretary.
- Dustin Blue was awarded the Alpha Gamma Rho Horticulture Scholarship at the 2008 National Convention in Chicago, IL.
- Becky Mosbacher (Fults, IL) became the first woman to win the Illinois FFA Star in Agricultural Placement.
- Robert Tokosh was awarded 3rd place in Graduate Research Competition for Agricultural Sciences during the 94th Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science (KAS) held in Lexington. His study focused on the effects of various forage grasses on soil properties with special focus on soil structure and compaction. Tokosh was also awarded the 2009 Sigma Xi Multidisciplinary Poster Competition Award during Scholar's Week at Murray State University
- The MSU Equestrian Teams had a very successful season. Both the Stock and Hunt Teams were named high point team for 2008-2009 in Regional Competition. In addition, Callie Edie, Madeah Daubert, and Alyssa Vieth qualified for National Competition in stock seat, and Samantha Erwin was recognized as regional high point rider in hunt seat and represented the team at Nationals.
- Ben Davis (Dewey, IL) and Josh Hafley (Perryville, KY) qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo held in Casper, WY in June. After four rounds of competition, the pair finished 12th in the nation in team roping.
- Curtis Dame (Rumsey, KY) was elected student Vice President of Alpha Tau Alpha, a national professional agricultural education organization.

2008-2009 AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Senior Man in Agriculture: Matthew Roark

Outstanding Senior Woman in Agriculture: Jolee Holderman

Outstanding Graduate Student in Agriculture: Erin Cathcart

Agriculture Leadership Award: Cassie Cutter
Emily Harned

Outstanding Man in Alpha Zeta: Samuel Rogers

Outstanding Woman in Alpha Zeta: Jolee Holderman

Outstanding Senior in Agribusiness: Rachel Neff

Outstanding Agricultural Education Student Teacher: Jessica Smith

Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Systems Technology: Matthew Roark

Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Science: David Crouch

Outstanding Senior in Agronomy: Joshua Scott

Outstanding Senior in Animal Health Technology: Krystal Campbell

Outstanding Senior in Pre-Veterinary Medicine: Jolee Holderman
Jona Kos

Outstanding Senior in Animal Science: Krista Denham

Outstanding Senior in Equine Science: Laura Sadecki

Outstanding Senior in Horticulture: Jessica Gill

Go Getter Award:	Justin Gossett	Rachael Smith	Jona Kos
	Jim Ford	Zachary Workman	Emily Henderson
	Adele Heintel	Jordan Timberlake	Morgan Jenkins
	Heather Whelehon		

Outstanding Agribusiness Club Member: Matthew Roark

Outstanding Agronomy Club Member: Robert Kyle Wade

Outstanding Sigma Alpha Members:	Morgan Jenkins - Member	Charlene Siza - Senior
	Kayla Branham - Nu Class	Amy Sanders - Mu Class

Outstanding Block & Bridle Member: Cassie Cutter

Outstanding AHT/Pre-Vet Club Member: Jolee Holderman

Outstanding Alpha Gamma Rho Member: Patrick Cody Willis

Outstanding Horticulture Club Member: Stacy Bridges

Outstanding Agricultural Engineering Technology Club Member: Matthew Roark

Outstanding Agriculture Ambassador: Jolee Holderman

Outstanding Stock Seat Equestrian Team Member: Calandra Edie

Outstanding Hunt Seat Equestrian Team Member: Samantha Erwin

Outstanding Horseman's Club Member: Cassandra Walker

Outstanding Cowboy: Benjamin Davis

Outstanding Cowgirl: Amber Boyers

Outstanding FFA Member: Justin Gossett

GRADUATE RESEARCH

December 2008 and May 2009 Graduate Students participated in research projects as part of their Master's Degree program requirements.

December 2008

- Melissa Kaye Graves (Murray, KY)
Advisor: Dr. Iin Handayani, Associate Professor of Soil Science
Research Project: *Differences in Soil Organic Carbon Levels in Endophyte-Infected Fescue Versus Mixed Grass Pastures*
- John Ryan House (Benton, AR)
Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
Thesis: *Preconditioning and Feeding Programs for Light Weight Stocker Roping Cattle*
- Carl Ray Jenkins, III (Clarksville, TN)
Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
Thesis: *Evaluation of Finishing Beef Calves on Select Summer Annuals*
- Paul Michael Skaggs (Tremont, IL)
Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
Thesis: *Safety and Therapeutic Efficacy of Glucosamine and Chondroitin in Arthritic Horses*
- Matt Winferd Upchurch (Marble Hill, MO)
Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson, Associate Professor of Agronomy
Thesis: *The Residual Effects of Broiler Litter on Soybean Yield and Soil Properties in Western Kentucky*

May 2009

- Erin Lorraine Cathcart (Oakdale, IL)
Advisor: Dr. Pat Williams, Professor of Horticulture
Thesis: *Analyzing Effectiveness of a Below-Bench Baffle System Designed to Achieve Uniform Greenhouse Bench Top Air Temperatures.*

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

14 School of Agriculture students prepared posters for Posters at the Capitol held on February 5, 2009 in Frankfort, KY.

- The Effect of Foliar Calcium Applications to Dark Fire Cured Tobacco*
 Scottie Coleman (Murray, KY), Trent Murdock (Murray, KY), Ben Paschall (Puryear, TN), and Robert Stuard (Trenton, TN)
 Faculty Advisors: Dr. Tony Brannon and Dr. Whitney Peake
- The Effect of Various Nitrogen Fertilizer Sources on Dark Fired Tobacco*
 Bryan Craig (Hazel, KY), David Crouch (Murray, KY), Carrie Elliott (Fancy Farm, KY), and Grant Fridy (Puryear, TN)
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. Iin Handayani
- The Effects of Different Fungicide Treatments on Dark Tobacco 2008*
 Daniel Hayden (Philpot, KY), Josh Miller (Murray, KY), Justin Parrish (Murray, KY) and Joshua Scott (Slaughters, KY)
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson
- Using Population Dynamic Models to Assess the Spread of an Invasive Species, Alligator Weed (Alternanthera philoxeroides)*
 Jona Kos (Glasgow, KY) and Glenna Buford
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. Maeve McCarthy and Dr. Kate He

Scottie Coleman, Robert Stuard, Bryan Craig, Daniel Hayden, & Joshua Scott pose with MSU President, Dr. Randy Dunn at the 2009 Posters at the Capitol.



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.

2008-2009 Caseload:

- **13,210** diagnostic cases processed
- This decrease in the number of case submissions can be attributed to:
1) milder winter weather, 2) slow economy and lower agricultural commodity prices, and 3) changes in how poultry companies submit samples
- During the outbreak of Avian Influenza in Central Kentucky this spring, BVC performed all area testing required to ensure food and egg supply safety.
- BVC is noting an increase in the number of swine submissions from Western Kentucky.



Staff Updates:

- The Serology Section welcomed Nancy Leonard and Keely Netz to its staff.
- Kathy Higgins retired after 32 years of services to BVC.
- Alissa Sanderson and Rachel Hudson completed and passed the certification examination for Histotechnologists.
- Dr. Ramesh Gupta, professor and head of toxicology, was invited to present his research *Cholinesterase Inhibitors and NMDA Receptor Antagonists in Alzheimer's Disease and Pesticide Poisoning* in October 2008 at the Second World Conference on Magic Bullets (Ehrlich II) in Nurnberg, Germany. Dr. Gupta was also accepted as a Fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, published several book chapters, and edited two books: (1) *Handbook of Toxicology of Chemical Warfare Agents* (Academic Press) and (2) *Anticholinesterase Pesticides: Metabolism, Neurotoxicity, and Epidemiology* (John Wiley and Sons).

Advisory Council:

The BVC advisory council held its annual meeting in November 2008. Items on the agenda included: the BVC fiscal plan, strategies for renovating the current building or constructing a new facility, and forecasting animal agriculture needs.

AAVLD Accreditation:

- BVC underwent accreditation review by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians in the spring of 2009, culminating with a site visit in May.
- Accreditation is an in-depth peer review of the laboratory operations to ensure that the quality and reliability of tests performed are the equivalent of any other accredited laboratory in the nation.
- BVC was accorded full accreditation through December 2010, with future accreditation contingent on facility improvement.

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 a wide array of events. The Expo was rededicated and named the William "Bill" Cherry Agricultural Exposition Center on April 21, 2006.

SELECTED 2008-2009 EXPO EVENTS

MSU College Rodeo:

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



Tractor and Truck Pull:

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



Bull Blowout

- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 5,000

Live Nativity Scene

- Sponsored by United Methodist Churches of Calloway County



Arena Cross

- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 3,000

Dennis Reis No Dust Tour

- Natural Horsemanship Clinic

Western Rivers Livestock Show

- Annual livestock show and judging clinic
- Sponsored by 4-H and UK Agricultural Extension Service

American Quarter Horse Association Shows

IHSA Horse Shows

Mini Tractor Pull



BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

The School of Agriculture hosted its annual Back to School Picnic on August 26, 2008 at the West Farm Complex. Over 475 agriculture students, faculty, and staff attended “A Taste of MSU Agriculture” and sampled a variety of agricultural products including fried catfish, pork chops, ribeyes, and chicken. This annual event is a great way to kick off the Fall semester and welcome our incoming freshmen.



Members of the Block and Bridle Club grilled steaks and pork chops for more than 400 students, faculty, & staff at the annual Back to School Picnic.



RACER ROUNDUP

The School of Agriculture and Collegiate FFA hosted Racer Roundup on September 19, 2008. Approximately 400 high school students from Kentucky and Illinois attended this year's event, themed “That 70's Racer Roundup”. Collegiate FFA members hosted sessions designed to



strengthen leadership qualities and promote team building among high school freshman FFA members.

KY State FFA Secretary Megan McKinney conducts a session during Racer Roundup 2008.

ARBORETUM GROUNDBREAKING

Murray State University and the School of Agriculture celebrated the groundbreaking of the forthcoming arboretum at the Pullen Farm in conjunction with Homecoming activities on October 10, 2008. The University received \$80,000 in Kentucky Agriculture Development funding earlier this year to offset costs associated with the establishment of the arboretum. The arboretum will be a fully accessible horticulture display, public garden, and education laboratory divided into five major sections: open woodlands, savanna, open prairie, oak and hickory forest, and wetlands. In addition, the facility will contain display and community gardens, as well as two miles of walking trails winding through the arboretum. The mission of the arboretum will be to provide and display both local and introduced woody plants, annuals, and perennials, with a special emphasis on plants native to the Western Kentucky region. Those attending the groundbreaking ceremony included MSU administration, School of Agriculture Faculty and Staff, arboretum planning committee members, School of Agriculture Alumni Association Officers, and representatives from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

The groundbreaking also doubled as a kick-off for the fifth annual Fall on the Farm event. Students from Murray Elementary School were invited to enjoy a host of agriculture related activities sponsored by the Agriculture Leadership Council.

MSU officials, Agriculture Alumni Association officers, and members of the arboretum planning committee broke ground on the Pullen Farm at the future sight of the arboretum.



Students from Murray Elementary School and their principal, Ms. Janet Caldwell attended the kick-off to express their appreciation to the School of Agriculture and to KDA for sponsoring Fall on the Farm. Mark Wilson is pictured representing the Kentucky Department of Agriculture



Fall on the Farm

Helping Young Minds Grow

The School of Agriculture and the Ag Leadership Council hosted the fifth annual "Fall on the Farm" October 10 and 15-18, 2008. Over 1,300 area elementary and pre-school students and more than 1,000 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. Returning events included a corn maze, corn pit, petting zoo, pony rides, pumpkin painting, slide, water balloon slingshot, pedal tractor races, rubber duck races, butter making, and milk cow demonstrations as well as educational sessions presented by the Kentucky Soybean Association and MSU School of Agriculture organizations. Fall on the Farm 2008 also saw the addition of a climbing wall and a second slide to its list of activities. This event continues to grow each year and is made possible thru the support of our faculty, staff, and students, as well as numerous corporate sponsors.



Local elementary school students enjoyed a day on the farm and participated in events including a slide, corn maze, rubber duck races, and a climbing wall.

AG EARLY ADMISSION DAY

Ag Early Admission Day was held on November 8, 2008. Thirty-nine high school seniors and their families visited MSU during Early Admission Day this year. This event provides future students with an early admission decision to the University, as well as an opportunity to meet with faculty from each academic area in the School of Agriculture and tour the



University's farm complexes. Participants also receive a refund for their admission application fee and are eligible to win one of three \$500 tuition vouchers.

ALUMNI BANQUET

The 46th annual Agriculture Alumni Association Banquet was held in conjunction with MSU Homecoming activities on October 10, 2008. Special recognition was given to graduates from the classes of 1958 and 1983 to commemorate their 50th and 25th anniversaries. Awards were presented to Mr. Johnnie Stockdale (B.S.), Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus; Hillary Spain (B.S.A.), Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumnus; Dickie Turner and Eddie Billingsley, School of Agriculture Appreciation Awards; and Betty Hill, and Tom and Theo Tuck, School of Agriculture Support Awards; School of Agriculture students Rachael Smith (Hendersonville, TN), Rebecca Sweet (Reed, KY), and Mikayla Johnson (Morning View, KY) were awarded Agriculture Alumni Association Scholarships.



Mr. Johnnie Stockdale and Ms. Hillary Spain were presented the Outstanding Alumni awards at the 2008 Alumni Banquet.

School of Agriculture Dean, Dr. Tony Brannon is pictured with the 2008-2009 Appreciation Award recipients.



ALLTECH ON THE ROAD

The School of Agriculture and the Agriculture Leadership Council hosted Dr. Pearse Lyons, founder and president of Alltech Biotechnology on November 10, 2008. Headquartered in Lexington, KY, Alltech is one of the leading animal health companies in the world and sponsor of the 2010 World Equestrian Games. Dr. Lyons' presentation focused on "Energy, Agriculture, and Education - Opportunities for Kentucky." The presentation provided both community and University leaders an opportunity to meet Dr. Lyons, learn how he founded Alltech, and hear how the company believes that science and marketing can revolutionize the Commonwealth while promoting education and innovation. In addition, members of the Horseman's Club and Equestrian Teams were given the opportunity to meet with Dr. Lyons and learn more about the 2010 World Equestrian Games and opportunities for the organizations to assist at the Games.

Since Dr. Lyons' visit, Alltech has partnered with the School of Agriculture to conduct research trials focusing on the effects of various Alltech products on soybean growth, development, and production yields. In addition, the School of Agriculture has submitted a DVD proposal for potential student volunteers for the 2010 World Equestrian Games.



Dr. Pearse Lyons met with School of Agriculture Equine students, faculty, and staff to answer questions regarding the 2010 Alltech World Equestrian Games.

Dr. Pearse Lyons, president of Alltech, and his staff visited the MSU Equine Instructional Facility and presented equine staff members Dale Barnett, Gary Atkerson, Sue Robinson, and Don Delaney an Alltech World Equestrian Games countdown clock.



EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE LUNCHEON

The annual "Excellence in Agriculture" luncheon was held November 13, 2008. This marked the fourth year for the event designed to recognize 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 luncheon was sponsored by Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, and Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, served as keynote speaker.

Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs served as keynote speaker for this year's Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon.



TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

The Murray State University Agribusiness Club sponsored the third annual Toys for Tots toy drive this year in memory of former agribusiness professor, Dr. Ken Bowman. This project supports the efforts of the Calloway County Family Resource Center Santa Project and the Murray Family Resource Center Tiger Christmas. Students collected 438 toys and \$645 in

cash. The toys and cash donations were delivered by Agribusiness Club officers on December 12, 2008.



Pictured from left are MSU School of Agriculture students Anthony Jones, Matt Roark, Ag Business Club Advisor Dr. Whitney Peake, School of Agriculture Activities Coordinator Rhea Ann Wright, and Cassandra Walker with the toys collected in the 2008 Toys for Tots Drive.

SOYBEAN PROMOTION DAY

The School of Agriculture and the Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board sponsored the fifth annual Soybean Promotion Day on January 13, 2009 at the Murray State University Regional Special Events Center. 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. Jeff Beal, a consultant with Strategic Marketing Services opened the evening with a focus on marketing tools available to agriculture producers and how to best use them effectively. John Phipps, host of *US Farm Report* served as keynote speaker. The focus of his presentation centered around the future of agriculture and how some trends in agriculture may be forever changed.



Approximately 200 area farmers, agribusiness representatives, and School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students attended Soybean Promotion Day.

Kentucky Soybean Board member, Dennis Clark is pictured with Mr. John Phipps, host of US Farm Report and the 2009 Soybean Promotion Day keynote speaker.



CAREER FAIR

The School of Agriculture and the Agriculture Leadership Council hosted the Agriculture Career Fair on February 25, 2009. Thirty-five companies were represented this year at the career fair, and over 300 agriculture students attended the event. In addition, for the second consecutive year the Agribusiness Club sponsored Professionals in Agriculture, a program designed to allow students to talk one-on-one to individuals involved in the agriculture industry.



Senior Agriculture Education major, Emily Harned talks with David Davis about career opportunities with Kentucky Farm Bureau.

ALPHA ZETA AWARDS BANQUET

This 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 for the 2008-2009 academic year.

School of Agriculture Assistant Dean, Dr. Dwayne Driskill is pictured with Ms. Jolee Holderman and Mr. Matthew Roark, the 2008-2009 Senior Man and Woman in Agriculture.



School of Agriculture Dean, Dr. Tony Brannon presented Ms. Erin Cathcart with the award for the Outstanding Graduate Student in Agriculture.



FFA FIELD DAY

The 57th annual Murray State University FFA Field Day was held April 15, 2009 at the Wm. Bill Cherry Expo Center. Forty-four high schools and 1,339 students from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Illinois competed in events including livestock judging, tractor driving, tobacco judging, horticulture contests, goat tying, roping, and horsemanship. Calloway County High School finished first in overall competition for the fourth consecutive year.

Congressman Ed Whitfield was presented a "Friend of MSU Agriculture" award at this year's FFA Field Day as a token of appreciation for his work in securing legislative funding for School of Agriculture projects.



Students participate in the tobacco judging contest during 2009 FFA Field Day.

Congressman Ed Whitfield made a special visit to FFA Field Day. School of Agriculture Dean, Dr. Tony Brannon and Breathitt Veterinary Center director, Dr. Wade Northington are picture with the Congressman.



TWILIGHT TOBACCO TOUR

The Twilight Tobacco Tour was held August 11, 2008. 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 2008 growing season included fertilizer trials, herbicide trials, and foliar calcium application trials. Dr. Andy Bailey was on hand to discuss ongoing tobacco research, and all participants were treated to a catfish dinner following the tour.



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



Forty-three high school seniors from across Kentucky participated in this year's IFAL conference at MSU.

INSTITUTE FOR FUTURE AGRICULTURAL LEADERS

The School of Agriculture hosted the Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) June 14-18, 2009. IFAL is a five day leadership conference for high school seniors sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau. Forty-three students from across the state attended this year's IFAL, where they participated in team building and leadership development exercises. Participants traveled to Land Between the Lakes to take part in their Challenge Course, and later had the opportunity to tour Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville and Hilddale Farms in Princeton. In addition, the group participated in a Congressional Insight game, hosted by Mr. Joe Cain (KFB) and designed to give students a behind the scenes look at the legislative selection process. Students also researched current issues impacting agriculture and competed in IFAL's own version of the Kentucky Farm Bureau discussion meet. Other activities included a photo scavenger hunt, Barnyard Olympics, a special presentation by Missy Jenkins-Smith, victim of the 1997 Heath High School shooting, 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 participating in the Challenge Course at Brandon Springs in Land Between the Lakes.

Participants competed in tug-of-war, the IFAL derby, wheelbarrow races, and the backwoods barber shop event during Barnyard Olympics.



- **INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL CLASS VISITS
PUERTO RICO
MARCH 15-21**

Twenty-three MSU School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and students traveled to Puerto Rico March 15-21, 2009. The group participated in several agriculture related tours including the USDA Tropical Research Station, Pioneer Seed Research Facility, DuPont Chemical Company, Bacardi Rum Distillery, and the Puerto Rico Zoo. In addition, the group visited Hacienda del Jibarito, a 22-acre agritourism facility and hotel located in the heart of Puerto Rico's coffee producing region near San Sebastian. The group was also treated to a four-wheeler tour of the Puerto Rican rainforest and a walking tour of Old San Juan and the historic El Castillo San Felipe del Morro, a sixteenth-century citadel located on the northwestern-most point of the San Juan islet.

Members of the International Studies in Agriculture class visited Pioneer's plantain research plots.



Rachael Neff, Sarah Welch, Sarah Holliday, Dr. Jay Morgan, Jessica Edelman, & Dawn Melikant took time out to pose for a picture before the group headed into the rainforest.

- **Dr. Whitney Peake** traveled to St. Istvan University in Gödöllő, Hungary in April 2009. While there, she served as a guest lecturer in several courses relating to environmental policy and entrepreneurship in the United States. Dr. Peake was also responsible for reviewing and editing academic manuscripts written in English, as well as an English translation of a statistics textbook.
- **Dr. Iin Handayani** gave students in her Crop Management and Soil Science classes an opportunity to learn more about agriculture in other countries. Dr. Rosma Hasibuan and Mr. Mona Arif from the University of Lampung (Lampung, Indonesia) and Dr. R.H. Husni from Syiah Kuala University (Banda Aceh, Indonesia) visited the School of Agriculture September 16-18, 2008.

SPECIAL EVENTS 2008-2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
8/26/2008	School of Agriculture Picnic (retention)	475
9/19/2008	Racer Roundup	288
9/19/2008	Purchase Area Soil Judging Contest	25
9/23/2008	Regional College Fair	9
9/27/2008	Racer Day I	7
10/6/2008	Mini Racer Day	2
10/10/2008	Mini Racer Day	1
10/10/2008	Homecoming Banquet	127
10/10,15-18/2008	Fall on the Farm (ALC Project)	2400
10/13/2008	Mini Racer Day	1
10/17/2008	Mini Racer Day	4
10/20/2008	Evansville (IN) Dessert Reception	4
10/21-23/2008	National FFA Convention	145
10/21/2008	Owensboro Dessert Reception	2
10/23/2008	Calloway County Dessert Reception	2
10/29/2008	Paducah Dessert Reception	4
10/30/2008	Murray High School Dessert Reception	1
11/2/2008	Lexington Reception	2
11/3/2008	Louisville Reception	5
11/8/2008	Racer Day II	35
11/8/2007	Agriculture Early Admission Day	39
11/10/2008	Alltech "On the Road" Presentation	25
11/13/2008	Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon	46
12/2/2008	Ag Sales Contest	65
12/2/2008	Region I & II FFA Welding Contest	86
12/4/2008	Kentucky Farm Bureau Convention	10
12/4/2008	Calloway Co. High School Senior Interviews	6
1/26/2009	West Tennessee Speaking Contest	65
1/31/2009	Presidential Scholars Interview Day	2
2/11-14/2009	National Farm Machinery Show	65
2/13/2009	Mini Racer Day	3
2/25/2009	Ag Day (Career Fair)	277
2/25/2009	Alpha Zeta Agriculture Awards Banquet	386
3/25/2009	Purchase Region FFA Speaking Day	238
3/11/2009	Pennyrile Region FFA Speaking Day	275
3/12/2009	4-H Horse Judging	150
3/27/2009	FFA Regional/State Officer Training	46
3/28/2009	Racer Day III	20
4/15/2009	FFA Field Day (44 Schools)	1339
4/18/2009	Summer Orientation I	31
6/5/2009	Summer Orientation II	29
6/6/2009	Summer Orientation III	28
6/5-6/2009	4-H Horse Camp	130
6/9-11/2009	KY State FFA Convention Career Show	88
6/14-18/2009	IFAL	43
6/24/2009	Summer Orientation IV	26
6/25-26/2009	Western Rivers Livestock Clinic	360
7/11/2009	Summer Orientation V	24
7/14-16/2009	Kentucky State FFA Camp	86
7/22/2008	Summer Orientation VI	27
7/23/2009	Summer Orientation VII	9
Total:		7563

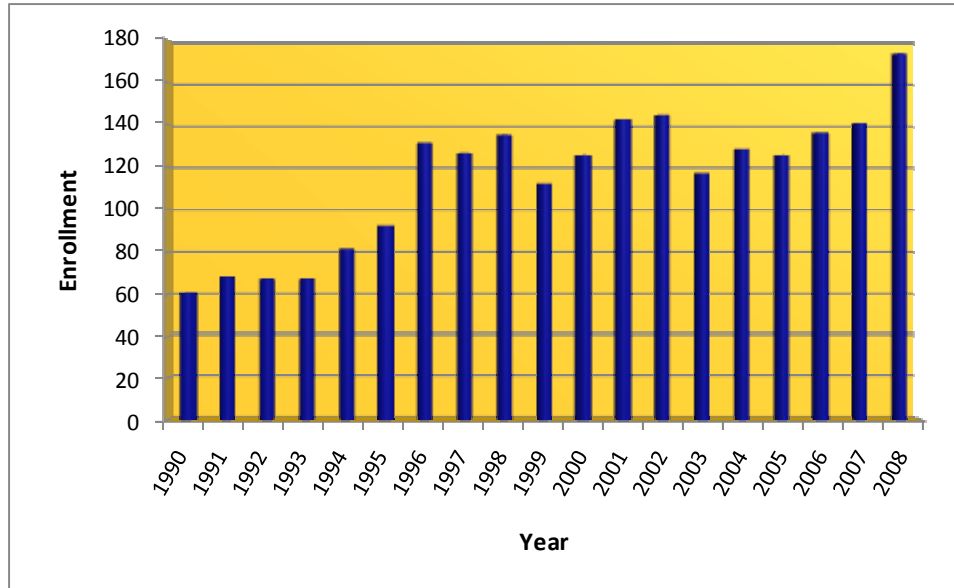
HIGH SCHOOL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE VISITS

Date	School	Number of Student Cards Collected
9/8/2008	Russell County High School	52
9/9/2008	Graves County High School	39
9/19/2008	Graves County High School (On-campus)	18
9/19/2008	Hardin County High School (IL) (On-campus)	6
9/30/2008	Calloway County High School	60
10/3/2008	South Spencer High School (IN)	55
10/3/2008	Lyon County High School	27
10/3/2008	Hickman County High School Career Fair	0
10/3/2008	Bullitt Central High School	42
10/10/2008	Caldwell County High School	25
10/11/2008	Marshall County High School	27
10/14/2008	Barren County High School	23
10/14/2008	Metcalf County High School	44
10/21-24/2008	National FFA Convention	
10/29/2008	Heath High School	21
10/31/2008	Crittenden County High School	34
10/31/2008	Station Camp High School (TN)	72
11/2-4/2008	Lexington/Louisville Dessert Reception	
11/3/2008	Page High School (TN)	14
11/13/2008	Hopkins County Central High School	102
11/14/2008	Franklin-Simpson High School	18
12/10/2008	Todd County High School	18
12/12/2008	Daviess County High School	37
12/15/2008	Christian County High School	24
1/14/2009	Hopkinsville Community College	20
2/11/2009	Hopkinsville High School	29
2/23/2009	Owensboro Catholic High School	20
2/28/2009	Carroll County (TN) Reception	6
3/3/2009	Crittenden County High School	23
3/9/2009	Muhlenberg North High School	5
3/12/2009	Muhlenberg South High School	39
3/16/2009	Nelson County High School	51
3/17/2009	Spencer County High School	21
3/19/2009	Trigg County High School	32
3/19/2009	FFA Day Lindsey Wilson College	0
3/23/2009	Trigg County High School	34
3/26/2009	Livingston County High School	17
3/30/2009	Madisonville North Hopkins High School	24
4/1/2009	Reidland High School	48
4/2/2009	Crittenden County High School	12
4/3/2009	Henderson County High School	18
4/6/2009	Rend Lake Community College	9
4/9/2009	Logan County High School (Gear Up MSU visit)	26
4/17/2009	Fulton County High School	13
4/17/2009	Carlisle County High School	57
4/20/2009	Lone Oak High School	12
4/23/2009	Ballard County High School	12
4/24/2009	Pulaski County High School	60
4/28/2009	Apollo High School	37
5/8/2009	Breckinridge County High School	33
Total		771

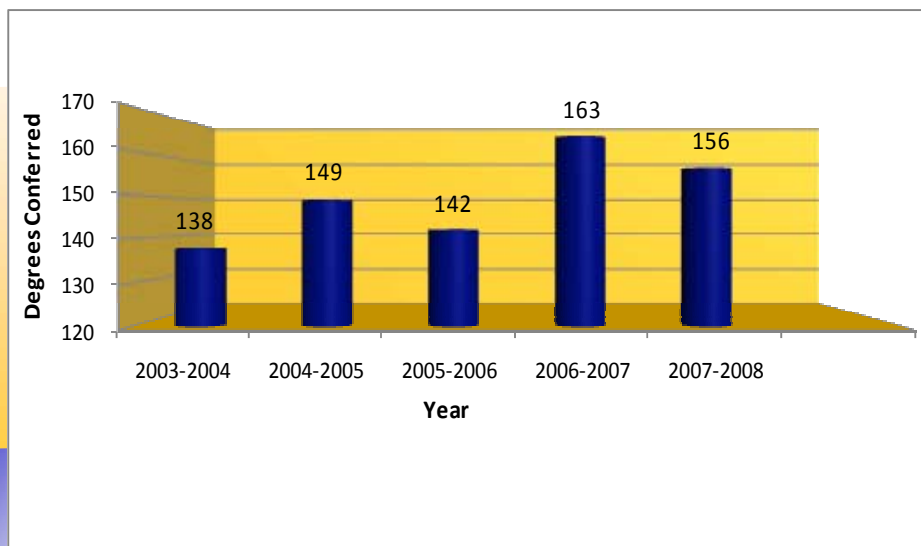
FFA BANQUETS ATTENDED

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>
4/21/2009	Henry County High School (TN)
4/25/2009	Trigg County High School
4/26/2009	Lone Oak High School
4/28/2009	West Tennessee Banquet - Jackson
4/30/2009	Christian County High School
4/30/2009	Lincoln Trail Regional Banquet (LaRue Co. High School)
4/30/2009	Region I Banquet (Marshall Co. High School)
5/1/2009	Crittenden County High School
5/4/2009	Carlisle County High School
5/5/2009	Breckinridge County High School
5/5/2009	Marshall County High School
5/5/2009	Region II Banquet (Caldwell Co. High School)
5/7/2009	Heath High School
5/7/2009	Hickman County High School
5/7/2009	Hopkinsville High School
5/7/2009	Todd County High School
5/8/2009	Lyon County High School
5/11/2009	Calloway County High School
5/12/2009	Hopkins County Central High School

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE FRESHMEN ENROLLMENT HISTORY Fall 1993 - Fall 2008



SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE DEGREES CONFERRED 2003-2008



SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE FRESHMEN RETENTION Begin Fall 2007 - Return Fall 2008

Academic Program	Initial Cohort	Returned to Same Major	Returned to Same Dept.	Returned to Same College	Returned to Any Program
<i>Agribusiness</i>	25	72.0%	76.0%	76.0%	80.0%
<i>Agriculture Education</i>	11	54.5%	63.6%	63.6%	63.6%
<i>Agricultural Science</i>	3	33.3%	66.7%	66.7%	66.7%
<i>Ag. Systems Technology</i>	2	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<i>Agronomy</i>	6	66.7%	66.7%	66.7%	83.3%
<i>Agriscience Technology</i>	3	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	100.0%
<i>Animal Health Technology</i>	64	70.3%	70.3%	70.3%	75.0%
<i>Animal/Equine Science</i>	14	64.3%	64.3%	78.6%	85.7%
<i>Horticulture</i>	4	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
School of AgTotal	132	66.7%	68.9%	70.5%	76.5%
MSU Overall	1,373	50.1%	56.1%	60.0%	74.3%

MSU FALL 2006 - FALL 2007 RETENTION BY ACADEMIC COLLEGE

