



*A Community
of Scholars
Honoring
Excellence*

2020



2020

**Food and
Agricultural Sciences
Excellence
in College and
University
Awards Program**

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of Scholars
Honoring
Excellence*

INTRODUCTION

The world has changed in ways we couldn't even imagine when we met together in San Diego last fall. For the first time in 60 years, Americans saw prolonged shortages of staples at the grocery store. Throughout the spring and summer, much of our agricultural research paused, most university students went home for online learning, and Extension professionals across the nation had to create ways to deliver critical information to local citizens and a struggling agriculture industry without face-to-face contact.

Once again, you rose to the challenge. Through our continued partnership with the Association of Public and Land-Grant University system, including our land-grant universities and non-land-grant universities, we are cultivating ground-breaking discoveries that help our nation's farmers and families, ranchers, producers, and ultimately consumers, while rapidly responding to a global health emergency.

The 2018 Farm Bill not only provided for increased funding for many of our competitive programs, it also creates opportunities to strengthen our partnerships across the university system and USDA—through

new 1890 scholarship funding and a new Urban Agriculture program. This vital support helped us refocus funding opportunities to quickly deliver support to you to address COVID-created challenges in agriculture and communities and gave us flexibility in help you meet the challenges in your labs and classrooms.

This year also has been a year of incredible growth for NIFA. From our new location in Kansas City, we are working diligently to build and train our workforce for an improved, forward-focused agency, working closely with our partners, and investing in science to deliver solutions for the challenges that face our nation. NIFA will seize this exceptional opportunity to be the nation's leader in agricultural science innovation.

Today, we recognize the extraordinary efforts of educators, teachers, researchers, leaders, and extension professionals whose work creates a tremendous positive impact for those we serve.

Our congratulations to every member of the family of land-grant, non-land grant agriculture, and resource-related universities, and to the award winners being recognized today.



DR. PARAG CHITNIS

Acting Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture

APLU PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Distilled down to its essence, higher education is a network of people and ideas. Educators serve as the connection that binds the higher education community together. Educators inspire curiosity in their students, spark creativity through their research, and propel the world forward through service to their communities. Remarkable individuals in our community deserve to be recognized for the tremendous contributions they make to their students, institutions, and society every day.

As president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, I commend the 2020 recipients of the Food and Agriculture Excellence Awards. They have distinguished themselves in a field of men and women who work tirelessly to improve the world through their research, instruction, and community engagement.

This year presented unprecedented challenges for universities. While facing the pandemic, faculty were forced into rapidly changing and evolving teaching, research, and outreach strategies. This year's winners exemplify adaptability—they allow institutions to build resilience and embrace innovative approaches to reaching students and society.

As we continue to usher in an era of rapid societal and technological change, the individuals at the core of our universities promise to help shape a future that is better than our present or past. This is made possible only through their uncompromising dedication to excellence and their unrelenting commitment to improving our shared destiny.

I warmly congratulate this year's winners and extend our sincere gratitude for their unwavering commitment to excellence.



PETER MCPHERSON

President, Association of Public & Land-grant Universities





National
Teaching
Awards

2020



Liz Flaherty

Associate Professor

Department of Forestry and Natural Resources

Purdue University

For Liz Flaherty, focusing on the development of students' critical thinking and professional skills as well as mastery of course content is her strategy for producing successful future natural resource and agriculture professionals. In her courses, students engage in activities similar to those expected of natural resource professionals, like developing habitat management plans for Purdue-owned properties as a semester-long project in her Wildlife Habitat Management course, which also provides students with opportunities to evaluate career options and pathways.

During her seven years at Purdue University, she has revised and taught three required courses in the wildlife major, developed and taught a teaching seminar to support her department's graduate students that serve as teaching assistants for undergraduate courses, and developed and led two study abroad courses to Cuba and the Galápagos Islands that focus on the environment, biodiversity, and land management.

Her teaching and undergraduate student mentoring has been recognized through Purdue University's College of Agriculture's Richard L. Kohls Early Career Award and the Richard L. Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, Purdue University's Charles B. Murphy Undergraduate Teaching Award, an Innovative Teaching Award from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, an Educator Award from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, and the Student Chapter Advisor of the Year Award from The Wildlife Society.

She earned a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology and Management from the University of Wyoming, a M.S. from Southeast Missouri State University, and a Ph.D. in Zoology and Physiology from the University of Wyoming.



Gretchen Mafi

Professor

Department of Animal and Food Sciences

Oklahoma State University

Gretchen Mafi, known by many of her students as “Doc,” believes successful teaching can be summarized in five core values: attitude, commitment to excellence, hard work, leadership, and, most importantly, passion. Dr. Mafi is the Ralph & Leila Boulware Endowed Chair Professor and undergraduate advising coordinator for the Oklahoma State University Department of Animal and Food Sciences, which is home to more than 1,000 students.

During her 14 years at Oklahoma State University, Dr. Mafi has educated and mentored over 5,000 students through traditional and online learning. With a teaching and research focus in meat science and evaluation, Dr. Mafi is passionate about providing students with hands-on experiences to help them better understand the global importance of the meat industry.

Dr. Mafi has received 19 teaching and coaching awards. She received the 2019 American Meat Science Association Distinguished Teaching Award and the Oklahoma State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Advising Excellence.

Dr. Mafi has published 75 articles and 80 abstracts, along with a variety of presentations and service publications. Additionally, Dr. Mafi is PI or Co-PI for grants in excess of \$5 million. She also works on many fundraising efforts to support the meat judging team and other meat science activities.

Dr. Mafi served as an American Meat Science Association Board of Directors Member (2014-2017), and as the AMSA Intercollegiate Meat Coaches Association President (2010-11 and 2019-20).

Gretchen earned a bachelor’s degree at Texas Tech University (1994), a Master of Science degree at Colorado State University (1996), and a Ph.D. at Texas Tech University (2000).





Regional
Teaching
Awards

2020

Matthew Mars

Associate Professor

Department of Agricultural Education,
Technology & Innovation
The University of Arizona

Matthew Mars has been teaching at The University of Arizona (UArizona) for nearly 15 years and in the UArizona's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) beginning in 2014. Since joining the CALs faculty, he has designed and implemented a suite of courses that have made entrepreneurial leadership and innovation content available to undergraduate and graduate students across all academic units in CALs (and beyond). Dr. Mars is an early adopter of collaborative- and project-learning techniques, which includes his work as the Founder and now Academic Director of the CALs Innovation Collaboratory. He is continually inspired by the opportunity to help students develop their sense of agency and capacity for leading change through the development and application of an entrepreneurial mindset. He is a past recipient of the UArizona CALs Early Career Teaching Award (2016) and an Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) Innovative Teaching Award (2018). He was named a Fellow in the UArizona CALs Cardon Academy for Teaching Excellence in 2016 and was recognized as the first Dorrance Scholarship Program Professor of Excellence in Teaching in 2017. Dr. Mars has established a significant publication and grant funding record specific to enhancing innovation and interdisciplinarity across the college teaching professions. His research in this topical area has been published in such top journals as *The Journal of Higher Education*, *Minerva*, and the *Review of Higher Education*. Additionally, Dr. Mars's work on community development and entrepreneurship has been published in such journals as *Agriculture and Human Values*, *Community Development*, and *Rural Sociology*. He earned a B.A. in Sociology/Anthropology from Utica College of Syracuse University, a M.Ed. in Counseling and Human Relations from Northern Arizona University, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from The University of Arizona.

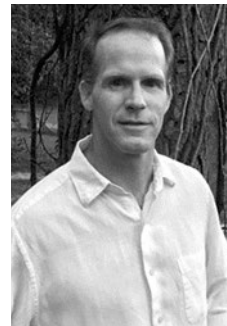


Robert McCleery

Professor

Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
University of Florida

A professor in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Florida, Dr. McCleery works to facilitate an understanding of the complex relationships between humans and the natural world. He teaches classes in ecology, mammalogy, research methods and statistics. He also initiated a teaching and research program in southern Africa based out of the Savanna Research Center in Eswatini, which he founded. To engage students in the natural world, he incorporates field activities into all his classes. To foster problem solving and engagement skills, he uses a flipped classroom approach and emphasizes experiential learning.



In recognition of his efforts as an instructor and mentor, he received the NACTA (North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture) Educator Award, the Outstanding Educator Award from the Florida Wildlife Society, and the University of Florida's top honor for mentoring graduate students (UF Doctoral Dissertation/Mentoring Award). Additionally, his lab was recognized as one of the top 10 labs for undergraduate research by *Popular Science*.

Dr. McCleery's efforts to facilitate undergraduate research experience in Africa has been funded by the National Science Foundation, and he runs a robust lab of graduate students. He has graduated 31 masters and PhD students (14 PhD, 17 MS) over the last 10 years. With his students, he has published over 120 peer-reviewed manuscripts. His research has helped address south Florida's invasive python issue, protect Florida's threatened and endangered mammals and conserve Africa's elephant and rhino populations.

Gulnihal Ozbay

*Professor and Extension Specialist in Natural Resources
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Delaware State University*

Having served for 18 years as faculty at Delaware State University, Gulnihal Ozbay utilizes hands-on and outdoor active learning environment in her classrooms. Dr. Ozbay believes an educator's most important role is helping the students find their own motivation by developing their individual interests and encouraging their active participation.



Called Dr. O by her students, she has advised and mentored many undergraduate students, and led or co-led numerous undergraduate experiential learning and study abroad programs. She has also advised many graduate students in both the Food Science and Biotechnology Program and the Applied Chemistry Program.

Dr. Ozbay secured over \$3.5 million in grants targeted at enhancing teaching, experiential learning, and professional development programs. These projects provided training opportunities for almost 400 undergraduate and pre-college students, along with workshops and summer training programs for in-service teachers.

Her teaching and mentoring efforts have received various recognitions, including: 2020 Faculty Excellence Award in Advising, 2018 Faculty Excellence Award in University and Community Service, 2016 White House Recognition to Join Championship on Climate Education, and the 16th Association of Research Directors' Symposium, among many other awards.

Active in research and outreach, she has over 120 publications with her collaborators and has served as an Associate Editor and a Review Editor for three journals.

Gulnihal Ozbay earned a B.S. in aquaculture and fisheries engineering at Ondokuzmayis Universitesi, Turkey, M.S. degrees in bio-resources engineering and in food science and biotechnology at University of Maine and Delaware State University, respectively, and a Ph.D. in fisheries and allied aquacultures at Auburn University.

Aleksan Shanoyan

*Associate Professor
Department of Agricultural Economics
Kansas State University*

Aleksan (Alex) Shanoyan has been on the faculty in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University since 2012. He teaches courses in agribusiness economics and management to undergraduate and graduate students where he combines real-world problem-based learning activities with computer-aided real-time learning assessment tools. In his teaching philosophy Alex emphasizes the importance of human connection and sincere dedication to student success. Outside the classroom, Alex's dedication to student success is reflected in his involvement in a wide range of advising and extracurricular activities. He serves as a co-adviser of Agricultural Economics Club, has advised student research projects for the Center for Risk Management Education and Research, served as a mentor for undergraduate students in the K-State Research and Extension Multicultural Summer Research Fellowship program, advises K-State Agricultural Economics Graduate Student Case Study Competition Teams, serves as an academic advisor to undergraduate students and supervises graduate student thesis and dissertation research. Alex is also actively involved in research on teaching and learning and is a frequently invited contributor to teaching workshops and mentoring programs organized by the university and professional associations.



Alex has received numerous teaching awards including the 2016 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, Less Than Ten Years' Experience from the Western Agricultural Economics Association, and 2017 Distinguished Teaching Award: Less Than Ten Years' Experience from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association.

He earned a B.S. in Economics and Accounting from the Armenian Agricultural Academy, M.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois, and Ph.D. in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics from the Michigan State University.

Julianne Treme

Teaching Associate Professor

*Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
North Carolina State University*

For Julianne Treme, effective teaching is about being able to connect to all types of learners. As Teaching Associate Professor at NC State University since 2014, she connects to students through her empathy and ability to create engaging work. Her teaching focuses on developing creative assignments, maintaining rigor, keeping topics relevant to current events, and providing meaningful and active learning opportunities. She provides students with opportunities to collaborate and develop critical problem-solving skills by debating new ideas, engaging in team-based learning, creating policy-based infographics, using social media to connect with course content, and orally defending policy proposals.



Treme has published a series of peer-reviewed articles and created Excel for Agribusiness and Agribusiness Analytics courses to help students develop valued job market skills. Her online introductory economics course earned Quality Matters certification, an international and rigorous peer-review certification program.

She is the chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee for the national Agricultural Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and is serving as a DELTA Faculty Fellow at NC State, a group of faculty who have demonstrated excellence and innovation in teaching and technology.

She has been recognized for her outstanding teaching through North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Educator Award, NC State College of Agriculture and Life Science (CALs), NACTA Teaching Award of Merit, CALs Outstanding Teacher Award, NC State Outstanding Teacher Award, and NC State Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award. Treme earned a bachelor's degree from Elon University and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University.

Brian D. Whitaker

Associate Professor

*Department of Animal and Pre-Veterinary Studies
University of Findlay*

Brian Whitaker has been on the faculty at the University of Findlay since 2010. He utilizes active learning strategies and student involvement in all of his classes to encourage the development of the whole student. Whitaker is currently responsible for teaching multiple undergraduate courses in reproduction, breeding and genetics, and swine production and management.



Whitaker aims to create a favorable learning environment that stimulates the students to become fully engaged in the information being presented by encouraging in-depth discussion, critical thinking, and analysis of the topics. His teaching has been recognized through the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture as a recipient of the Educator Award and Teaching Scholar Award, National Pork Board Award for Innovation in Education, American Society of Animal Science Midwest Section Outstanding Young Teacher Award, and Virginia Tech's Outstanding Animal Science Recent Graduate Alumni Award. Whitaker is also an academic undergraduate advisor for his department and is a faculty advisor for Delta Tau Alpha, Academic Quadrathlon Team, and Block and Bridle.

In addition to teaching, Whitaker focuses on reproductive cell biology in his undergraduate student research laboratory. He has published 22 peer-reviewed journal articles and 75 abstracts in supporting and providing research and educational experiences for students. He has advised over 30 undergraduate research students.

He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and master's and Ph.D. degrees from Virginia Tech.



Early Career
Teacher
Awards

2020

Suzanne M. Gray

*Associate Professor
School of Environment and Natural Resources
The Ohio State University*

At the core of Suzanne Gray's teaching philosophy is enhancing the student experience by expressing her passion for nature and learning in a way that is accessible to a diverse student body and giving students hands-on learning experiences. She prioritizes one-on-one mentoring and experiences that encourage graduates to be engaged global citizens. Students in her classes are exposed to the wetlands, rivers, and lakes of the world through an integrative approach whereby students delve into the primary literature and then design and implement their own experiments.



Gray's research, which focuses on understanding how freshwater fishes respond to human-driven environmental change, integrates students at all levels. For example, her students study the mechanisms underlying the persistence of fishes in extreme environments in Uganda, she supervises student projects at OSU's Stone Laboratory on Lake Erie where students investigate the effects of harmful algal blooms on recreational fisheries, and students in her fish taxonomy class explore fish diversity in urban rivers of Columbus. Gray's students are encouraged to publish papers and present at conferences to gain professional development skills alongside the theoretical and practical experiences.

Gray has been honored for excellence in teaching with an *OSU Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching* and an *Educator Award* from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture. She has additionally pursued a number of opportunities for improving her teaching and mentoring, including attending the NSF ADVANCE Workshop, *Women Evolving Biological Sciences* and participating in the *Teaching Support Program*, University Institute for Teaching and Learning and a *Course Design Institute* through the University Center for the Advancement of Teaching at OSU.

Gray received bachelor's and a master's degrees from the University of Guelph (Canada) and a PhD from Simon Fraser University (Canada).

Joy Morgan

*Assistant Professor
Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences
North Carolina State University*

For Joy Morgan, teaching has been a life-long passion allowing her to combine her interests in education and agriculture into one career. In 2016, Morgan was hired as an assistant professor in the Agricultural and Human Sciences Department at NC State University where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses while also serving as the director for the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Agricultural Leadership Development Program. Incorporating real-life experiences by combining the application of strong content knowledge in an experiential setting, Morgan provides students with opportunities for service-learning, community engagement, inclusive practices, and leadership development in agriculture. Her focus on serving students begins with recruiting students to NC State, extends to academic and extracurricular advising, and continues with advising students' careers after graduation. Strong community partnerships including one with the Governor Morehead School for the Blind provide student-centered learning activities designed to foster career skills and civic involvement. As the director of the NCTTFC ALDP, Morgan directs and teaches in this two-year program created for early and mid-career agriculturalists interested in leading within commodity organizations, rural communities, and other agricultural settings. Joy strongly values her role as an educator, advocate, and community builder as she strives to fulfill the NC State mission of "Think and Do."



In addition, Morgan has been recognized for exemplary teaching and advising with the Global Community of Academic Advising Outstanding New Advisor Merit Certificate, NC State New Faculty Advisor Award, and North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture Teaching Award of Merit.

Joy Morgan earned her bachelor's, master's, and Ed.D. from NC State University.

Tyson Sorensen

Assistant Professor

*Department of Applied Sciences, Technology and Education
Utah State University*

Since 2015, Tyson Sorensen has formally taught over 1,570 students at the undergraduate and graduate levels and in a variety of settings and formats. He has developed two study abroad programs and has conducted over 40 workshops for teachers and teacher educators across the country focused on teacher skill development and educational improvement.



Sorensen has a passion for teaching and helping students and educators be successful through contextualized experiential learning. As such, his approach to teaching often involves challenging students through engagement with real-world issues, hands-on experiential learning and practice, and critical reflection. He has mentored a number of undergraduate and graduate students; with numerous journal articles, research presentations, scholarships, and successfully completed thesis and dissertation projects as a result of his mentorship. Sorensen's scholarly efforts and teaching programs are intertwined, focusing on improving agricultural education at all levels and ensuring well-trained agriculturists and scientists can address important global and socio-scientific issues.

Sorensen has provided leadership and expertise on various teaching-focused committees at USU, including the Council on Teacher Education. He has been recognized for exemplary teaching and mentoring and has received numerous teaching awards including the Western Region APLU Early Career Teacher Award, Western Region American Association for Agricultural Educators Outstanding Early Career Award, USU's College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year, and the USU Secondary Education Outstanding Student Teaching Supervisor Award.

Tyson Sorensen earned a bachelor's and master's degree from Utah State University and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University.





National Teaching
and Student
Engagement
Awards

2020

W. Wyatt Hoback

Associate Professor

*Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology
Oklahoma State University*

Dr. Hoback has been active during a 21-year career emphasizing teaching. He has taught 24 different university courses in biology, ecology, graduate studies, and entomology. At Oklahoma State University, he teaches more than 600 undergraduate non-majors per year about the interactions of insects and human society. He also teaches four majors and graduate student courses yearly. In addition to teaching, Dr. Hoback formally advises 30 Entomology majors, has mentored over 40 MS and PhD graduate students and has mentored almost 100 undergraduate research projects. He serves as the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society's 2020–21 President and is chair of the society's National Education and Outreach Committee. Dr. Hoback has been recognized for teaching through numerous awards, including the University of Nebraska outstanding alumni award in 2014, NACTA Educator Award, two Entomological Branch Awards for teaching, and the National Entomological Society Distinguished Teaching Award in 2018. Dr. Hoback's research focuses on insect communities and explores the beneficial roles of insect biodiversity in maintaining ecosystem health. This research allows students to explore and document the benefits to agriculture and human society by highlighting economic benefits and potential new sources of antibiotics, new strategies for pest management and new opportunities for businesses. He has published over 130 peer-reviewed research articles and 12 peer-reviewed teaching articles, most co-authored with undergraduate and graduate students. He has been lead-PI on four education grants from the USDA and has generated more than \$4 million in external funding for teaching and research.

Hoback earned a bachelor's degree from Randolph-Macon College, a master's degree from Missouri State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Nicholas Uilk

Instructor

*Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
South Dakota State University*

An instructor in the Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering at South Dakota State University, Nic Uilk has been on the faculty since 2009. He has taught a range of classes within many programs including, Agricultural Systems Technology, Agricultural Education, and Precision Agriculture. He teaches courses ranging from introductory seminars to high-level systems management courses and innovative capstone projects. Nic believes that students learn best through hands-on experiences and strives to provide these experiences to support lecture material throughout all his courses. One example of hands on teaching was adding a mobile lab experience which consists of 8 Kubota UTV side by sides equipped with Precision Ag technology that includes auto-steer, modern sprayers, and four two-row planters equipped with all the technology that is standard on modern planters. This allows, through lab experiences, every student to get multiple hours of direct exposure to the technology being used on modern farm equipment today.

Early in his teaching career, Nic saw an industry demand for graduates with a background in precision agriculture and worked to fill that void by creating a program that taught students the value precision practices can bring to production agriculture. He has engaged in professional development experiences to improve his teaching and has collaborated with other faculty to assist them as well. He has been a recipient of the Walt McCarty Advisor of the Year and the Gamma Sigma Delta Excellence in Teaching Award.

He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from South Dakota State University.



TEACHING AWARDS SELECTION PANEL

Jean A. Bertrand

*Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
College of Agriculture, Forestry & Life Sciences
Clemson University*

Joe H. Sullivan

*Associate Dean for Academic Programs
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
University of Maryland, College Park*

David S. Buchanan

*Associate Dean for Academic Programs
College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural
Resources
North Dakota State University*

Wesley L. Whittaker

*Dean
School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Langston University*

Shyam S. Nair

*Assistant Professor
School of Agricultural Sciences
Sam Houston State University*

Ania Wieczorek

*Interim Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa*

UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards

University of Florida (20)	University of Massachusetts (3)
Kansas State University (16)	University of Minnesota (3)
Texas A&M University (15)	University of Wisconsin–Madison (3)
University of Illinois (14)	Washington State University (3)
Iowa State University (12)	Auburn University (2)
Oklahoma State University (12)	California State University, Fresno (2)
Cornell University (11)	Clemson University (2)
Purdue University (11)	Langston University (2)
The Ohio State University (11)	Michigan State University (2)
North Carolina State University (11)	North Dakota State University (2)
University of Connecticut (9)	Southern University and A&M College (2)
The University of Georgia (9)	University of California, Riverside (2)
University of Missouri–Columbia (7)	University of Delaware (2)
Colorado State University (6)	University of Vermont (2)
The Pennsylvania State University (6)	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (1)
Utah State University (6)	California State University, Chico (1)
New Mexico State University (5)	Florida State University (1)
University of Arizona (5)	Illinois State University (1)
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (5)	Montclair State University (1)
University of Nebraska (5)	North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (1)
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (4)	Southwest Missouri State University (1)
Sam Houston State University (4)	Tarleton State University (1)
South Dakota State University (4)	University of Findlay (1)
University of California, Davis (4)	University of Hawaii (1)
University of Idaho (4)	University of Maryland, College Park (1)
University of Kentucky (4)	University of Maryland Eastern Shore (1)
University of Rhode Island (4)	University of Michigan (1)
University of Wyoming (4)	University of Nevada, Reno (1)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (4)	University of North Carolina, Greensboro (1)
Delaware State University (3)	University of Wisconsin–River Falls (1)
Louisiana State University (3)	West Virginia University (1)
Oregon State University (3)	
Texas Tech University (3)	

() denotes number of recipients since inception of awards in 1992

ROLL OF RECIPIENTS

Excellence in College and University Teaching Awards (2007–2020)

NATIONAL

George Acquah
Langston University, 2007

Teresa C. Balsler
University of Wisconsin, 2009

Michael J. Boehm
The Ohio State University, 2010

Terence J. Centner
The University of Georgia, 2015

Ann D. Christy
The Ohio State University, 2016

Daniel L. Civco
University of Connecticut, 2007

John L. Crompton
Texas A&M University, 2012

Dennis R. Decoteau
The Pennsylvania State University, 2019

Liz Flaherty
Purdue University, 2020

Garey A. Fox
Oklahoma State University, 2015

Tiffany M. Heng-Moss
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2013

Shida R. Henneberry
Oklahoma State University, 2014

M. Douglas Kenealy
Iowa State University, 2009

Kerry K. Litzenberg
Texas A&M University, 2011

Steven M. Lonergan
Iowa State University, 2018

Gretchen Mafi
Oklahoma State University, 2020

Joshua J. Millspaugh
University of Missouri, 2008

Robert A. Milvae
University of Connecticut, 2011

Gregory Möller
University of Idaho, 2014

S. Suzanne Nielsen
Purdue University, 2017

F. Bailey Norwood
Oklahoma State University, 2016

Candice A. Shoemaker
Kansas State University, 2012

Michelle S. Shroeder-Moreno
North Carolina State University, 2019

Ricky W. Telg
University of Florida, 2010

Ann Marie VanDerZanden
Iowa State University, 2017

Michael E. Wetzstein
The University of Georgia, 2013

M. Susie Whittington
The Ohio State University, 2008

X. Ben Wu
Texas A&M University, 2018

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Anna L. Ball
University of Missouri, 2014

Jason Scott Bergtold
Kansas State University, 2018

Michael Boland
Kansas State University, 2008

Emily B. Buck
The Ohio State University, 2016

C. Lee Burras
Iowa State University, 2011

Joseph F. Donnermeyer
The Ohio State University, 2010

Allen M. Featherstone
Kansas State University, 2011

Janice J. Haggart
North Dakota State University, 2013

Alan C. Hansen
University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, 2015

Richard W. Hartel
University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2011

Walter L. Hurley
University of Illinois, 2014

Soo-Yeun Lee
University of Illinois, Urbana–Champaign, 2013

Donald Jiann-Tyng Liu
University of Minnesota, 2007

Brian H. Lower
The Ohio State University, 2016

Christian Y. Oseto
Purdue University, 2008

Kevin L. Schalinske
Iowa State University, 2019

Richard C. Schultz
Iowa State University, 2008

Aleksan Shanoyan
Kansas State University, 2020

Janice Marie Siegford
Michigan State University, 2017

Michael F. Smith
University of Missouri, 2010

Daniel U. Thomson
Kansas State University, 2012

Cheryl Joy Wachenheim
North Dakota State University, 2018

Michel A. Wattiaux
University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2009

Brian D. Whitaker
University of Findlay, 2020

Kimberly A. Williams
Kansas State University, 2009

Cody L. Wright
South Dakota State University, 2019

Curtis R. Youngs
Iowa State University, 2014

NORTHEAST REGION

Kenneth P. Blemings
West Virginia University, 2012

John C. “Jack” Clausen
University of Connecticut, 2013

Ashim K. Datta
Cornell University, 2011

Joshua Martin Duke
University of Delaware, 2018

John C. Ewing
The Pennsylvania State University, 2016

Thomas P. Husband
University of Rhode Island, 2007

James P. Lassoie
Cornell University, 2014

David A. Levitsky
Cornell University, 2009

Lurline E. Marsh
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, 2019

Antonio DiTommaso
Cornell University, 2019

Gulnihal Ozbay
Delaware State University, 2020

Rama B. Radhakrishna
The Pennsylvania State University, 2010

Steven Andrew Zinn
University of Connecticut, 2017

SOUTHERN REGION

Antoine J. Alston
North Carolina A&T State University, 2010

Sarah Liberman Ash
North Carolina State University, 2007

Marcy M. Beverly
Sam Houston State University, 2019

J. Chance Brooks
Texas Tech University, 2014

Dale A. Coleman
Auburn University, 2011

W. Stephen Damron
Oklahoma State University, 2007

Molly Espey
Clemson University, 2012

L. Suzanne Goodell
North Carolina State University, 2017

Jeffory A. Hattey
Oklahoma State University, 2008

Susan K. Jacobson
University of Florida, 2017

Michael E. Kane
University of Florida, 2009

Stanley F. Kelley
Sam Houston State University, 2012

Robert A. Lane
Sam Houston State University, 2017

Robert McCleery
University of Florida, 2020

Foy D. Mills, Jr.
Sam Houston State University, 2015

Kimberly A. Moore
University of Florida, 2018

Zhu H. Ning
Southern University and A&M College, 2016

Lawrence R. ‘Dick’ Oliver
University of Arkansas, 2009

Tracy A. Rutherford
Texas A&M University, 2014

Jeffrey W. Savell
Texas A&M University, 2013

Robert L. Shewfelt
The University of Georgia, 2008

William J. Silvia
University of Kentucky, 2013

Patricia K. Smith
Texas A&M University, 2015

Nicole L.P. Stedman
University of Florida, 2016

Julianne Treme
North Carolina State University, 2020

George W. Wardlow
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, 2008

Alan Elliott Wilson
Auburn University, 2018

Elizabeth B. Wilson
North Carolina State University, 2010

WESTERN REGION

Amin Ahmadzadeh
University of Idaho, 2007

Elizabeth A. Applegate
University of California, Davis, 2016

Stephen Devadoss
University of Idaho, 2010

Thomas R. Famula
University of California, Davis, 2012

W. Marshall Frasier
Colorado State University, 2015

James A. Knight
The University of Arizona, 2007

Matthew Mars
The University of Arizona, 2020

Timothy D. Paine
University of California, Riverside, 2015

Dennis T. Ray
The University of Arizona, 2009

William E. Walton
University of California, Riverside, 2018

Brian K. Warnick
Utah State University, 2013

Karen C. Williams
University of Wyoming, 2012

EARLY CAREER

Abigail Borron
The University of Georgia, 2019

Leslie D. Edgar
University of Arkansas, 2013

Kellie J. Enns
Colorado State University, 2014

Miriam Ferzli
North Carolina State University, 2011

Suzanne M. Gray
The Ohio State University, 2020

Jason D. Hans
University of Kentucky, 2009

Jennifer L. Hardesty
University of Illinois, 2008

David W.W. Jones
North Carolina State University, 2013

Amy L. Kaleita
Iowa State University, 2007

Tracy Kitchel
University of Missouri, 2011

Neil A. Knobloch
University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, 2007

Rebecca G. Lawver
Utah State University, 2016

Andrea Lucky
University of Florida, 2019

Michael L. Mashtare, Jr.
Purdue University, 2018

Eric S. McLamore
University of Florida, 2016

Courtney A. Meyers
Texas Tech University, 2015

Chad T. Miller
Kansas State University, 2017

Christine Whitney Miller
University of Florida, 2017

Joy Morgan
North Carolina State University, 2020

Brian E. Myers
University of Florida, 2008

Maria Navarro
The University of Georgia, 2012

Haley F. Oliver
Purdue University, 2014

Ranjith Ramanathan
Oklahoma State University, 2018

Michael S. Retallick
Iowa State University, 2012

T. Grady Roberts
University of Florida, 2010

Tyson Sorensen
Utah State University, 2020

Lori Unruh Snyder
Purdue University, 2009

Jennifer R. Strong
Texas A&M University, 2015

Amanda D. Weaver
South Dakota State University, 2010

NATIONAL TEACHING AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

W. Wyatt Hoback
Oklahoma State University, 2020

Elizabeth L. Karcher
Purdue University, 2019

Monika W. Oli
University of Florida, 2018

Shelly Peper Sitton
Oklahoma State University, 2018

John D. Tummons
University of Missouri, 2019

Nicholas Uilk
South Dakota State University, 2020



National Award
for Excellence
in Extension

2020



James D. Ellis (Jamie)

*Apiculture Extension Specialist and Professor
Entomology and Nematology Department
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
University of Florida*

Jamie Ellis is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Apiculture in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida. A beekeeper since the age of 12, Jamie is a recognized expert on honey bee biology and husbandry.

Jamie directs the UF/IFAS Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory. The laboratory's mission is to advance the understanding of honey bees in Florida, the U.S., and globally, with the goal of improving the health and productivity of honey bee colonies everywhere. Jamie addresses this goal by conducting basic and applied research with managed and wild honey bees, communicating his findings to assorted clientele groups through diverse Extension programming, and training future generations of bee educators, researchers, conservationists, and more.

Honey bees pollinate many of the nation's food crops; yet, the beekeeping industry is threatened by pests and pathogens, low profit margins, outdated management techniques, and widespread chemical dependency in managed colonies. Jamie addresses these issues by communicating findings from his research programs to varied target audiences via multifaceted and dynamic Extension programming. His work has contributed to a 4.3-fold increase in the number of managed honey bee colonies and a 5-fold increase in the number of beekeepers in Florida. Ultimately, Jamie's efforts ensure a legacy of beekeeper, academic, industry and government interest in enhancing the sustainability of managed honey bee populations, and the agricultural/natural communities they support.

Jamie has a B.S. in Biology from the University of Georgia and a PhD in Entomology from Rhodes University in South Africa.



Regional Awards
for Excellence
in Extension

2020

1890S REGION

Sanjun Gu

Extension Horticulture Specialist

SARE coordinator

North Carolina A&T State University

Sanjun Gu has a 75% Extension and 25% Research appointment. Gu is passionate about small-scale sustainable agriculture. His work centers on outreach and applied research of vegetables and small fruits with a focus on season extension, organic, and sustainable practices. He was also designated for hemp extension and research since 2017. Gu is an nationally renowned expert in high tunnel production. He has received over \$5M extramural funding from various USDA agencies, state department of agriculture (Kentucky, Missouri and North Carolina), and foundations for his organic and sustainable research and extension program. He has published over 30 peer-reviewed research and extension papers, and graduated seven graduate students.



Gu has provided leadership in the land grant system. He was a viticulture program leader at Kentucky State University; a program director of the Outreach and Assistance to the Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Program and commercial vegetable program, and an associate program director of the small farm program at Lincoln University of Missouri; and the leader of the extension horticulture at N.C. A&T. Gu is a recent graduate of class 15 of the LEAD21 program.

Gu earned his bachelor's degree from Shandong Agricultural University, master's degree from China Agricultural University, and Ph.D. from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Lisa Bottomley

Senior Extension Specialist

Manager of Volunteer Services

Michigan State University

Lisa Bottomley is a senior specialist who provides leadership and management to volunteer administration with Michigan State University (MSU) Extension. Her areas of expertise include volunteer management and youth development. She specializes in mentoring, program design, curriculum development, policy implementation and training for staff and partners.



Early in her career as an educator, Bottomley specialized in the development and implementation of local mentoring programs for adjudicated youth. This work was nationally recognized and provided the foundation for mentoring programs implemented throughout Michigan 4-H. Later as a specialist, Bottomley partnered with community organizations to secure over \$2 million in grants for mentoring programs. She also strengthened volunteer engagement with youth, designed programs based on community needs, trained staff, and wrote curriculum for others to start or enhance their own mentoring programs. In 2012, Bottomley earned the title of senior specialist and in 2015, she was awarded the MSU Distinguished Academic Staff award.

Most recently, Bottomley has provided leadership to MSU Extension children and youth programs as acting co-director. In this role, Bottomley supervised, mentored and managed 150+ academic staff and 16,000 volunteers across 83 Michigan counties. Following that appointment, she began her current role providing leadership to MSU Extension volunteer administration.

Bottomley's leadership and expertise is acknowledged nationally and internationally through partnerships with MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; National 4-H Council; Michigan Community Service Commission; and Peraj, Mexico.

Bottomley received her bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and a master's degree from MSU.

NORTHEAST REGION

Jen Robertson-Honecker

*Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
State Specialist
4-H Youth Development Program
West Virginia University*

Dr. Jen Robertson Honecker is the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Specialist for WVU Extension Service's 4-H Youth Development Program. Over the past seven years, Jen has created educator professional development, curricula, and outreach activities that foster an appreciation for STEM in West Virginia youth and equip them with the skills they need to compete in the 21st century.



As the STEM specialist for WVU Extension, Jen brings science programming to kids in rural communities through camp programs, community events, and STEM curricula. She relies on experiential learning and real-world relevancy to keep youth engaged. When participating in her activities or curricula, students turn into environmental investigators comparing pH levels in local water samples, or astronomers remotely using research-grade telescopes in Chile or Australia.

Each year, Jen directs many unique STEM events with more than 1,500 youth and adult participants and directly oversees programs that reach another 25,000 youth annually. She has also authored state and national curricula, directed authentic research, and secured more than \$6,000,000 in grant funding to support statewide STEM literacy efforts. Nationally, Robertson-Honecker led the WVU Extension team that wrote the 2018 and 2019 National Youth Science Day challenges, *Code Your World* and *Game Changers*, that focused on computer science.

Jen earned a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education for Chemistry and Physics from Fairmont State University and a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from West Virginia University. Before joining WVU Extension in 2013, she served as a public-school science teacher and college chemistry professor.

SOUTHERN REGION

Hailin Zhang

*Nutrient Management Specialist
and Regents Professor
Oklahoma State University*

Hailin Zhang has served the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service and the people of Oklahoma for 24 years as an Oklahoma State University (OSU) Extension specialist and director of the university's Soil, Water and Forage Analytical Laboratory (SWFAL). He directs a comprehensive, statewide soil testing and animal waste nutrient management program that focuses on helping Oklahomans and other stakeholders solve issues of importance to them, their families and their communities through science-based recommendations and active engagement. Under his leadership, sample volume has more than doubled, turnaround time shortened and both quality and efficiency demonstrably improved. Dr. Zhang has authored or coauthored more than 160 referred journal papers; more than 200 Extension fact sheets, bulletins and news releases; and edited 3 books. Dr. Zhang's efforts have been recognized by his peers in numerous ways including appointment as an OSU Regents Professor, being selected as a Fellow in the Soil Science Society of America and American Society of Agronomy and receiving the prestigious and highly competitive Extension and Education awards from both of these international organizations.



Zhang earned his bachelor's degree from Nanjing Agricultural University, China, and master's and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University and the University of Minnesota, respectively.

WESTERN REGION

Paul A. Hill

*Extension Professor and Program Director
Utah State University*

Paul Hill serves as an Extension professor for economic development and program director for the Rural Online Initiative (ROI) at Utah State University Extension. His Extension programs and research focus on preparing communities for the future. In 2015, Hill was awarded the Utah Governor's Medal for Science and Technology for expanding 4-H computer science (CS) and maker education programs statewide. Hill also served as an eXtension fellow, studying the Maker Movement and representing Utah as a Maker Ambassador to the White House during the 2016 National Maker Faire.



In 2013, Hill piloted the first 4-H CS clubs, which caught the National 4-H Council's attention and

has since brought over \$7 million in funding from Google.org. He currently serves as the co-principal investigator for the National 4-H CS Pathway program to reach 300,000 youth in 41 states with hands-on CS education.

Hill's passion for economic development is reflected in his innovative work launching the ROI program, funded in 2018 under Utah House Bill 327 for a \$2.2 million appropriation. The ROI program provides people in rural areas with specialized training for remote work opportunities. In 2020, ongoing funding was appropriated by the Utah Legislature to the program based on its impact of placing over 140 rural residents in remote jobs, which had the economic equivalency of over 5,000 jobs in urban counties.

Hill earned his bachelor's degree from Dixie State University, a master's from Southern Utah University and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Utah State University.



National
Diversity in
Extension
Award

2020



4-H YOUTH FUTURES
COLLEGE WITHIN REACH

4-H Center for Youth Development

University of Missouri

Promoting college as an attainable goal for high school youth typically not encouraged to attend, such as first generation, underrepresented, and/or vulnerable college students is the goal of 4-H Youth Futures. In 2002, the University of Missouri and Lincoln University Extension educators recognized the need to develop an extensive college orientation program that included on-going local mentoring and a college orientation conference. In Missouri, roughly one in five Black/African American young adults between 16-24 years old is neither in school nor working and are considered as disconnected youth.

Collaboration and a successful pilot conference led to the inception of the 4-H Youth Futures program. Urban 4-H sites on both sides of state, Kansas City and St. Louis, recognized the need to create and provide a specialized program to meet the needs of their participants. The realization that many underserved youth are less prepared for college—academically, psychologically and financially—than those who come from college-educated families was the premise for programming. Furthermore, first-generation beginning youth are two times as likely as those with a parent with a college degree to leave before their second year. Because this is what was being experienced in these areas, at their sites, they decided to focus on helping youth prepare, enroll, experience college success, and graduate from college.

Evaluation has shown that since its inception, more than 41% of participants have graduated from college and more than 25% are presently college sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The overall college retention rate is 67%. 4-H Youth Futures continues to grow throughout the state of Missouri and is being introduced in other states through the National 4-H Mentoring program grant.

Visit <https://extension2.missouri.edu/programs/missouri-4-h/4-h-opportunities/4-h-camps-and-conferences/4-h-youth-futures-conference> or email garciadm@missouri.edu for more information.

HONORABLE MENTION: Dr. Rukeia Draw-Hood, 4-H Youth Development Program Leader, Prairie View A&M University, is recognized by national partners, peers, and stakeholders as one who contributes greatly to diversity in Extension. Her leadership is exemplified in three banner programs, Heroes 4-Health, Agribotics, and Growing U., which approach traditional 4-H projects in non-traditional ways and leads them to long-term engagement with larger Texas 4-H programs. As one example, since 2013 Heroes 4-Health has reached more than 30,000 youth and trained over 700 teens as health ambassadors in Texas.

ROLL OF RECIPIENTS

Excellence in Extension Awards (2007–2020)

NATIONAL

Elizabeth L. Address
The University of Georgia, 2012

G. A. 'Art' Barnaby, Jr.
Kansas State University, 2009

Barbara Chamberlin
New Mexico State University, 2011

Matthew J. Devereaux
University of Tennessee, 2019

Jeffrey T. Edwards
Oklahoma State University, 2013

James D. Ellis (Jamie)
University of Florida, 2020

Stephen D. Green
Texas A&M University, 2016

Ronald J. Hustedde
University of Kentucky, 2007

Robert L. Kallenbach
University of Missouri, 2014

Lesia Oesterreich
Iowa State University, 2018

Joe Outlaw
Texas A&M University, 2015

Louie Rivers, Jr.
Kentucky State University, 2017

Marilyn J. Smith
University of Nevada, 2008

Alison Van Eenennaam
University of California, Davis, 2010

1890'S REGION

Dorothy P. Brandon
Alabama A&M University, 2019

Fitzroy 'Roy' D. Bullock
Tennessee State University, 2009

Kevin Crenshaw
Alabama A&M University, 2012

Jason de Koff
Tennessee State University, 2018

Henry English
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2014

Karnita Golson-Garner
Alabama A&M University, 2016

Sanjun Gu
North Carolina A&T State University, 2020

David Heikes
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2010

Thelma Sanders-Hunter
Tennessee State University, 2007

Marion F. Simon
Kentucky State University, 2013

Claudette L. Smith
*North Carolina Agricultural and
Technical State University, 2011*

Nathan M. Stone
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 2008

Misty Blue-Terry
*North Carolina Agricultural and Technical
State University, 2017*

Virginie Zoumenou
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, 2015

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

William J. Angell
University of Minnesota, 2009

Frederick P. Baxendale
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2007

Lisa Bottomley
Michigan State University, 2020

Nozella L. Brown
Kansas State University, 2016

John DeFrain
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2010

Kevin Erb
University of Wisconsin–Extension, 2017

Rick Funston
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2014

Julie Garden-Robinson
North Dakota State University, 2015

Kimberly A. Greder
Iowa State University, 2013

Kathleen A. Lodl
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2011

Joe D. Luck
University of Nebraska, 2018

Richard J. Rasby
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2008

Dianne E. Shoemaker
The Ohio State University, 2019

Fred Whitford
Purdue University, 2012

NORTHEAST REGION

Chester Arnold
University of Connecticut, 2009

Chet Arnold
University of Connecticut, 2017

Elaine Bowen
West Virginia University, 2013

Molly E. Donovan
University of New Hampshire, 2018

Jerome L. Frecon
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2008

Elizabeth “Betsy” Greene
University of Vermont, 2011

Gordon C. Johnson
University of Delaware, 2019

Walter E. Kee, Jr.
University of Delaware, 2007

Chad Ripberger
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2010

Jen Robertson-Honecker
West Virginia University, 2020

Richard W. Taylor
University of Delaware, 2016

Richard W. VanVranken
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2014

Changlu Wang
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 2015

SOUTHERN REGION

Stanley Culpepper
The University of Georgia, 2016

Damona Doye
Oklahoma State University, 2017

R. Dwayne Elmore
Oklahoma State University, 2018

Clark D. Garland
University of Tennessee, 2010

Denise M. Holston-West
Louisiana State University, 2013

John S. Jacob
Texas A&M University, 2014

Garry D. Lacefield
University of Kentucky, 2008

Mark L. McFarland
Texas A&M University, 2009

Derrell S. Peel
Oklahoma State University, 2015

Mark Peterson
University of Arkansas, 2019

Nancy M. Porter
Clemson University, 2007

Tom A. Vestal
The Texas A&M University System, 2012

Lisa Whittlesey
Texas A&M University, 2011

Hailin Zhang
Oklahoma State University, 2020

WESTERN REGION

Michael Bondi
Oregon State University, 2010

Mary E. Burrows
Montana State University, 2012

Daniel L. Fagerlie
Washington State University, 2009

Marsha A. Goetting
Montana State University, 2017

Brian J. Higginbotham
Utah State University, 2013

Paul A. Hill
Utah State University, 2020

Dana Martin
Oregon State University, 2015

Donald B. Meehan
Washington State University, 2008

Terry Allan Messmer
Utah State University, 2016

Marcia R. Ostrom
Washington State University, 2007

Madeleine Sigman-Grant
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 2014

David G. Schramm
Utah State University, 2019

Michael P. Vogel
Montana State University, 2011

ROLL OF RECIPIENTS

National Diversity in Extension Awards (2007–2020)

Cesar Asuaje
University of Florida, 2014

Attitudes for Success Youth Leadership Program
Oregon State University, 2017

Ronald B. Cox, Jr.
Oklahoma State University, 2018

4-H Center for Youth Development
University of Missouri, 2020

Susan Given-Seymour
Northwest Indian College Cooperative Extension, 2013

Jeff G. Hart
University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 2007

Hector Mendiola
Utah State University, 2009

Juntos and Abriendo Caminos Work Teams
Iowa State University, 2019

People of the Land
University of Nevada, 2011

Rural Agricultural Improvement and
Public Relations Project

*New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension
Service, 2008*

Texas Grow! Eat! Go! (TGEG) Program
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 2015

The University of California Small Farm Program
2010

UC ANR 4–H Youth Development Program
IDI Qualified Administrators
University of California, 2016

Michael P. Vogel
*Extension Tribal Housing & Health Program Montana
State University, 2012*

UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Excellence in Extension Awards

University of Nebraska–Lincoln (7)	The University of Georgia (2)
Texas A&M University (6)	University of Kentucky (2)
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (5)	University of Tennessee (2)
University of Nevada, Reno (5)	Clemson University (1)
Oklahoma State University (5)	Louisiana State University (1)
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (4)	New Mexico State University (1)
Montana State University (3)	North Dakota State University (1)
North Carolina A&T State University (3)	Michigan State University (1)
Tennessee State University (3)	Purdue University (1)
Utah State University (3)	University of California, Davis (1)
Washington State University (3)	University of Florida (2)
Alabama A&M University (2)	University of Maryland Eastern Shore (1)
Iowa State University (2)	University of Minnesota (1)
Kansas State University (2)	University of Missouri–Columbia (1)
Kentucky State University (2)	University of New Hampshire (1)
Oregon State University (2)	University of Vermont (1)
University of Connecticut (2)	University of Wisconsin (1)
University of Delaware (2)	West Virginia State University (2)

UNIVERSITIES OF EXCELLENCE

As recognized by the Diversity in Extension Awards

University of California (4)	Northwest Indian College (1)
Oregon State University (3)	Oklahoma State University (1)
Utah State University (3)	Purdue University (1)
Michigan State University (2)	Texas A&M University (1)
Mississippi State University (2)	University of Florida (1)
The Pennsylvania State University (2)	University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign (1)
University of Missouri (2)	University of Maine (1)
Cornell University (1)	University of Minnesota (1)
Iowa State University (1)	University of Nebraska (1)
Lincoln University (1)	University of Nevada (1)
Montana State University (1)	University of Wisconsin (1)
New Mexico State University (1)	

() denotes number of recipients



National
Excellence in
Multistate
Research Award

2020

W-4001: Social, Economic and Environmental Causes and Consequences of Demographic Change in Rural America

Shannon Monnat, Technical Committee Chair
Anton Bekkerman, Administrative Advisor

Rural areas make up 72% of the nation's land area, house 46 million people, and are essential to agriculture, natural resources, recreation, and environmental sustainability. These areas are constantly changing, and many face challenges such as limited access to healthcare, education, and jobs. Events like the Great Recession and the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted how such challenges can lead to major disruptions to the environmental, economic, social, and physical wellbeing of rural communities.

Understanding the dynamics of rural population change is key to effectively addressing current and future challenges. Multistate Research Project *W4001: Social, Economic and Environmental Causes and Consequences of Demographic Change in Rural America* has pioneered the use of integrated, data-intensive, scientific methods to identify solutions for rural community resilience. Building on the groundwork laid by previous iterations of the project, this group's work has helped policymakers, rural businesses, utility companies, school administrators, law enforcement, healthcare providers, and others make decisions that meet the needs of rural areas now and for generations to come.

Over the last three decades, the W4001 project and its predecessors have sustained multidisciplinary, multistate approach to rural population research. Project members have a wide range of skills and are familiar with diverse rural settings across the nation. Working closely with other public and private institutions, federal agencies, and professional societies has further enhanced the group's analysis, outreach, and impact. In just the last three years, the group has produced hundreds of peer-reviewed publications, developed numerous public briefs, led workshops for community organizations, delivered over 200 presentations to stakeholders (including the U.S. Congress and the National Institutes of Health), and consulted for experts in multiple state and federal agencies.

In recent years, this project's research has helped address multiple major national health crises. For example, this project has provided essential information about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on rural communities, guiding states' social distancing policies, resource allocation, testing, and reopening strategies, ultimately saving lives. In particular, researchers developed *COVID Crush* (a user-friendly model of disease transmission) and briefs on rural vulnerabilities related to age and chronic disease prevalence, disparities in testing and case and death counts, the spread of misinformation, and economic impacts. Additionally, this project was the first to identify rising rural opioid overdose rates and explanations for those trends. This information shaped national legislation, influenced the design of an interactive data visualization tool that helps communities assess and respond to the overdose crisis, and led to rapid resource allocation. The group's research also guided the training and placement of community health workers after the Deepwater Horizon disaster, resulting in enhanced preparedness and capacity.

Findings have also impacted natural resource management in rural areas. For example, research-based recommendations encouraged the Governor of Michigan to explore alternative energy options to address population decline and energy needs, and research on fishing declines in the Midwest prompted state natural resource departments to recruit and engage diverse stakeholders in management decisions.

After discovering that rural populations are shrinking due to young adult outmigration, fewer births, and increased mortality, project members created a database that details county-level age-specific net migration trends. Hundreds of thousands of regional planners, insurance companies, school districts, senior housing developers, public health agencies, and other stakeholders have used the database to understand rural needs and market demand and to inform infrastructure development and resource allocation. Recently, research and outreach has helped numerous state governments prepare for the 2020 Census and facilitate a complete count. The W4001 team also continues to refine the work of previous committees, which led to changes in the official measurements of poverty and underemployment and the distribution of safety net resources.

Project funding: *W4001: Social, Economic and Environmental Causes and Consequences of Demographic Change in Rural America (2017–2022)* was funded by the Multistate Research Fund through USDA-NIFA and by grants to project members. The group currently comprises 39 members from 28 institutions. Members have expertise in sociology, geography, economics, natural resource management, Extension, and other disciplines. Building on the scientific groundwork and capacity developed in previous years, researchers within the group secured over \$13 million in external research funding between 2018 and 2020, including a 5-year National Institute on Aging grant.

Participating Land-grant Universities include: Auburn University, University of Connecticut, Cornell University, University of Illinois, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, Louisiana State University, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri, Montana State University, University of Nevada-Reno, University of New Hampshire, Ohio State University, Oregon State University, Pennsylvania State University, Utah State University, Washington State University, University of Wisconsin.

Other participating institutions include: Brigham Young University, Macalester College, McGill University (Canada), Michigan Tech. University, Middlebury College, University of Mississippi, University of Montana, Syracuse University, University of Texas at San Antonio, USDA ERS



W4001 members at the 2017 annual meeting in Fort Collins, CO.



W4001 member Shannon Monnat with the Director of National Drug Control Policy, Jim Carroll, at the White House in 2019.



W4001 members at Keweenaw National Historical Park Visitors Center during the 2019 annual meeting.

NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN MULTISTATE RESEARCH AWARDS

Social, Economic and Environmental Causes and Consequences of Demographic Change in Rural America (W-4001), 2020

Enhancing Microbial Food Safety by Risk Analysis (S-1056), 2019

Drainage Design and Management Practices to Improve Water Quality (NCERA-217), 2018

Water Management and Quality for Ornamental Crop Production and Health (NC-1186), 2017

Fly Management in Animal Agriculture Systems and Impacts on Animal Health and Food Safety (S-1060), 2016

Improving Sustainability in Fruit Tree Production through Changes in Rootstock Use (NC-140), 2015

Microirrigation for Sustainable Water Use (W-2128), 2014

Sweet Potato Collaborators Conference (SERA-5), 2013

Response to Emerging Threat: Soybean Rust (NCERA-208), 2012

Improving the Sustainability of Livestock and Poultry Production in the United States (S-1032), 2011

Biological Improvement of Chestnut through Technologies that Address Management of the Species, its Pathogens, and Pests (NE-1033), 2010

Biology, Impact, and Management of Soybean Insect Pests in Soybean Production Systems (S-1039), 2009

Porcine Reproductive and Regulatory Disease: Methods for the Integrated Control, Prevention, and Elimination of PRRS in United States Swine (NC-229), 2008

REGIONAL EXCELLENCE IN MULTISTATE RESEARCH AWARDS

NORTH CENTRAL

Using Behavioral and Environmental Tools to Identify Weight-Related Factors Associated with Health in Communities of Young Adults (NC-1193)

Kendra Kattelmann, Technical Committee Chair
Dennis Savaiano, Administrative Advisor

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

Auburn University
Kansas State University
Mississippi State University
Rutgers University
South Dakota State University
Syracuse University
University of Florida
University of Kentucky
University of Maine
University of Nebraska
University of New Hampshire
University of Rhode Island
University of Tennessee
West Virginia University

NORTHEAST REGION

Poultry Production Systems and Well-being: Sustainability for Tomorrow (NE-1442)

Ken W. Koelkebeck, Technical Committee Chair
Kumar Venkitanarayanan, Administrative Advisor

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

Auburn University
Alabama A&M University
Delaware State University
Iowa State University
Mississippi State University
Neiker-Technalia, Spain
North Carolina State University
Michigan State University
Purdue University
The Pennsylvania State University
University of Arkansas
University of Bern, Switzerland
University of California-Davis
University of Connecticut

University of Delaware
University of Georgia
University of Guelph, Canada
University of Hawaii
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska
University of Wisconsin-Madison
USDA-ARS (Georgia, Indiana, Mississippi)
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

SOUTHERN REGION

Specialty Crops and Food Systems: Exploring Markets, Supply Chains and Policy Dimensions (S-1067)

R. Karina Gallardo, Technical Committee Chair
Sherry Larkin, Administrative Advisor

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

Arizona State University
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Kansas State University
Mississippi State University
North Carolina State University
North Dakota State University
Oregon State University
Purdue University
Rutgers University
Texas A&M University
The Ohio State University
The Pennsylvania State University
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Kentucky
University of Maine
University of Missouri
University of Tennessee
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Utah State University
Washington State University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University





Experiment Station
Section National
Excellence in
Leadership Award

2020

1890 RESEARCH DIRECTORS (ARD)

Alfred L. Parks

Interim Executive Associate Director of the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center and Professor, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Prairie View A&M University

Dr. Alfred Parks is enjoying a stellar career in progressive higher education administration, leadership, and management. He has received numerous awards and recognitions for teaching excellence, research accomplishments, academic mentoring, leadership, and administration.



Parks has served on many committees, advisory boards, and task forces at various levels of local, state, national and international significance. He has served on the Farmer Loan Program, the Organic Standards, and the Small Farmer Outreach Committee, APLU-BAA Budget & Advocacy Committee, and Chair of ESCOP.

Dr. Parks served as Department Head of Agricultural Economics (1977-1987) and the Department of Agricultural Sciences (1989-1993) and Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences and Research Director of the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center (1994-2009) at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU). During his administrative tenure, he was responsible for the establishment of a summer apprentice program for high school students entitled the Research Apprentice Program; he provided leadership in establishing the World Food Distribution Training Center of Excellence; he played a major role in the establishment of a number of International Memorandum of Understanding in a number of countries such as Jamaica, Costa Rica, Mexico, Cameroon, and Ghana. He also played a major role in the establishment of the Ethiopian Sheep and Goat Products Improvement Program.

In 1981, Parks was appointed as a Systems Exchange Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University, College Station, and in 2018, he was recognized as the Outstanding faculty Member in the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Human Ecology at PVAMU.

Parks earned a B.S. from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Marc Linit

Retired Senior Associate Dean for Research & Extension and Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Missouri

Marc Linit is an intelligent, trusted, quick-witted, approachable, and focused colleague who was always ready to step up for the common good. As Senior Associate Dean, his thoughtful analysis, engaging leadership, and inclusive nature encompassed his administrative accomplishments as well as significant contributions with mentoring emerging and new leaders. Marc simply enjoyed the moment and innovating towards the future. He valued the role of education personally and for its benefit to society. He believed that land-grant universities provide an opportunity for learning that is essential for a healthy society.



Dr. Linit was an outstanding colleague, actively participated and provided excellent leadership to the NCRA from 2006-2018 by serving as MRC Chair in 2010, NCRA Chair-elect in 2011, and NCRA Chair in 2012, as well as Administrative Advisor to NCAC4 and NC1173. He championed cutting the bureaucracy and minimizing the red tape with all processes. In addition, Marc was engaged with the University-Industry Consortium, North American Agricultural Biotechnology Consortium, served on the executive board of the Walnut Council and the advisory board for the USAID Soybean Innovation Lab Project and initiated and served as Chair of the Pine Wilt Disease Working Group of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations. In addition to his research responsibilities, Linit concurrently served as the Associate Dean for Extension.

Dr. Linit had a distinguished career at the University of Missouri, where he had served as the Director of Graduate Studies of the Entomology Department and then as the Director of the Division of Plant Sciences. Prior to retirement, he was appointed as interim vice chancellor and dean, a fitting capstone to his MU career.

Linit earned a B.G.S. from Ohio University, an M.S. from the University of Maine, and a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas.

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Adel Shirmohammadi

Former Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station and Professor, Department of Environmental Science and Technology, University of Maryland

Dr. Adel Shirmohammadi, a NERA contributor since 2009, is a true, 360-degree agricultural engineer. Adel served as chair of NERA and led a period of change as Northeastern institutions implemented strategies for hiring the next generation of new faculty.



Adel served on ESCOP, the Board of Directors of the Northeast Regional Aquaculture Center and as Administrative Advisor for NRSP1, NE1335, NE1544, NE1545, NE1835, and NE2045. Adel also chaired and was a long-time member of ESCOP's Science and Technology Committee. As a "Beltway insider", Adel played critical roles on behalf of the Section in communicating and collaborating with federal partners.

Dr. Shirmohammadi has been the all-around player: professor, coordinator of undergraduate programs, Associate Department Chair and Director of Undergraduate Program in Bioengineering, and Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES). Adel worked closely with grant program directors from the NIFA, NSF, NIH, DOE, and EPA to assist his faculty in proposal development, submission, and award management. He brought those lessons to NERA and wisely shared his expertise with his Northeast colleagues. In that context, Adel initiated conversations and instituted strategies that set research priorities for multistate, multi-institutional projects.

Adel has been serving on numerous state and regional committees including Chesapeake Bay Science and Technology Committee (STAC), Maryland Climate Commission's Science and Technology Working Group (MCC-STWG), and he led the formation of the Maryland Inter-agency Water Consortium. He is a Fellow of his professional society, ASABE (American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers). He has received multiple ASABE's Presidential Citations for his service to the society.

Dr. Shirmohammadi earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Rezaeiyeh (Urmia), Iran, a M.S. from the University of Nebraska, and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University.

SOUTHERN REGION

Robert W. Godfrey

Associate Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of the Virgin Islands

Dr. Robert Godfrey is a witty leader with a strong commitment to the land-grant system.



While serving as Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of the Virgin Islands in 2010-2019, Dr. Godfrey has been actively engaged with SAAESD, serving as President in 2017, the ESCOP liaison to ECOP since 2018, the Insular Land Grant Institutions representative on the APLU-BAA Policy Board of Directors from 2013-2018 and on the APLU-BAA Budget & Advocacy Committee from 2019-present, the Administrative Advisor, and participant, for SCCo81 (Sustainable Small Ruminant Production in the Southeastern U.S.) from 2011-present, and Administrative Advisor for S1061, now S1081 (Nutritional Systems for Swine to Increase Reproductive Efficiency) from 2018-present.

Dr. Godfrey has made a concerted effort to participate in the land-grant system at the local, regional, and national level. He has provided leadership to faculty, staff, and students in support of tropical agriculture research to meet the needs of the local and global agricultural community. He initiated a program using NIFA grants for Resident Instruction in the Insular Areas to mentor undergraduate students in the absence of agriculture academic programs. In addition to being an administrator, he maintains an active research program in animal science. He served on the Executive Committee of the Southern Section American Society of Animal Science in 2009-2013 and as President in 2012.

Dr. Godfrey earned a B.S. degree at Kansas State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees at Texas A&M University.

WESTERN REGION

Steven J. Loring

Associate Director, New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico State University

Over his career, one of Steve Loring's primary goals has been to improve the perception of the land-grant system by the general public and policy makers. He has striven to find better ways of communicating how land-grant faculty, staff, and students make a difference at the local, state, regional, and national levels.



Steve has served WAAESD as an active participant, officer, and as Administrative Advisor for several projects. He has been Chair of the APLU-BAA Communications & Marketing Committee, Chair of the NRSP-1 National Information Management and Support System Oversight Committee, and Co-chair of the National Impacts Database Steering Committee. He served on the Board of Directors for the Western Rural Development Center. He also served on or facilitated USDA NIFA's Plan of Work Streamlining

Panel, Plan of Work Panel of Experts, and AREERA POW Redesign Project–Institutional Profile Working Group. He served as USDA-CSREES visiting faculty to facilitate strategic planning and performance self-studies and first portfolio reviews.

Dr. Loring has served as Assistant and Associate Director of the New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station System in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) at New Mexico State University. He is Director of the Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center and Interim Superintendent of the Leyendecker Plant Science Research Center and the Fabian Garcia Research Center. He served as Interim Head of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology and the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education. He also was Interim Coordinator of the New Mexico Agricultural Leadership Program, and Acting Superintendent of the Mora Forestry Research Center and the Farmington Agricultural Science Center. He received the College of ACES Fabian Garcia Award of Excellence.

Loring earned a B.S. degree from DePauw University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University.

NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Barbara Allen-Diaz
University of California System (W), 2016

Carolyn B. Brooks
1890 Research Directors (ARD), 2014

William (Bill) Brown
University of Tennessee (S), 2016

Douglas D. Buhler
Michigan State University (NC), 2018

Fred Cholick
Kansas State University (NC), 2015

Joe P. Colletti
Iowa State University (NC), 2019

Cameron Faustman
University of Connecticut (NE), 2019

Robert W. Godfrey
University of the Virgin Islands (S), 2020

H. Michael Harrington
Western Regional Association (W), 2018

Bret W. Hess
University of Wyoming (W), 2019

Walter A. Hill
Tuskegee University (ARD), 2016

Michael P. Hoffman
Cornell University-Ithaca (NE), 2015

George M. Hopper
Mississippi State University (S), 2017

Shirley Hymon-Parker
North Carolina A&T University (ARD), 2018

C. Colin Kaltenbach
University of Arizona (W), 2014

Arlen Leholm
North Central Regional Association (NC), 2014

Marc Linit
University of Missouri (NC), 2020

Steven J. Loring
New Mexico State University (W), 2020

Ian L. Maw
APLU (NE), 2018

Orlando F. McMeans
West Virginia State University (ARD), 2017

Bruce McPheron
The Pennsylvania State University (NE), 2014

J. Ernst (Ernie) Minton
Kansas State University (NC), 2017

Saied Mostaghimi
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (S), 2019

Craig Nessler
Texas A&M (S), 2014

Mortimer H. Neufville
1890 Universities Foundation (ARD), 2019

Ron Pardini
The University of Nevada-Reno (W), 2015

Alfred L. Parks
Prairie View A&M University (ARD), 2020

Dan Rossi
Northeastern Regional Association (NE), 2016

John S. Russin
Louisiana State University (S), 2018

Adel Shirmohammadi
University of Maryland (NE), 2020

Steven Slack
The Ohio State University (NC), 2016

Lee Sommers
Colorado State University (W), 2017

Alton Thompson
Delaware State University (ARD), 2015

Gary A. Thompson
The Pennsylvania State University (NE), 2017

Eric Young
Southern Regional Association (S), 2015





National Experiment
Station Section
Diversity and
Inclusion Award

2020

Tracy Irani, Jenny Jones, Sharon Austin, Keith Diem, Kelly Moore, Dale Pracht, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

*Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences (FYCS) at the
Institute of Food Agricultural Sciences of the University of Florida*

Faculty of the Family, Youth and Community Sciences (FYCS) Department at the University of Florida currently lead 21 Hatch projects (including ten multi-state projects), many of which are dedicated to the study of vulnerable and minority populations. In 2016, the FYCS Department began systematically assessing and strengthening its diversity and inclusion efforts through the work of Tracy Irani and a Diversity and Inclusion Committee. This committee employed an intentional process to gather information about faculty and staff perspectives on diversity and inclusion. Surveys and subsequent priority-setting workshops were foundational in developing an organizational climate where diversity and inclusion are prioritized and incorporated into the fabric of the department and its missions of teaching, outreach and research. With an inclusive climate and commitment in place, the department developed and transitioned to a “Diversity Opens” model, through which all faculty and staff have opportunities to participate in and lead targeted diversity and inclusion interventions.

The efforts of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee are worthy of recognition because they adopted a unique approach, Appreciative Inquiry, and moved beyond developing policies or trainings to create opportunities for faculty and staff to shift the culture of the organization. This intentional approach facilitated change in the department’s vision, operations, activities, and functions and can be adopted by other units addressing similar goals, across an array of disciplines. Importantly, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee developed a unique and replicable model for incorporating diversity and inclusion into departmental culture and strengthening faculty’s capacity to integrate diversity and inclusion into Experiment Station research. The Experiment Station Section extends its gratitude to the Diversity and Inclusion committee and looks forward to its continued commitment to excellence in intercultural competence and the building of inclusive organizations.



*Dr. Traci Irani will accept
the award on behalf of the
Diversity and Inclusion
Committee.*

NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARDS

Tracy Irani, Jenny Jones, Sharon Austin, Keith Diem, Kelly Moore, Dale Pracht,
the Diversity and Inclusion Committee

*Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences (FYCS)
at the Institute of Food Agricultural Sciences of the University of Florida, 2020*

Jeff Jacobsen, ESS/ARD Diversity Catalyst Committee
North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NCRA), 2019

Neil Knobloch and Levon Esters, The Mentoring@Purdue Team
Purdue University, 2018



Food Systems
Leadership
Institute

2020

FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FELLOWS, COHORT 14

Todd J. Applegate

*Department Head, Poultry Science,
University of Georgia*

Sheryl Barringer

*Department Chair, Food Science and Technology,
The Ohio State University*

Indrajeet Chaubey

*Dean & Director, College of Agriculture, Health and
Natural Resources, University of Connecticut*

Susan E. Duncan

*Associate Director, Virginia Agricultural Experiment
Station, Virginia Tech*

Jeff Edwards,

*Department Head, Plant and Soil Sciences,
Oklahoma State University*

Deacue Fields

*Dean and Associate Vice President, Bumpers
College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences,
University of Arkansas*

Garey Fox

*Department Head, Biological and Agricultural
Engineering, NC State University*

Elena Irwin

*Faculty Director, Sustainability Institute and
Distinguished Professor of Food, Agricultural,
and Environmental Sciences in Economics and
Sustainability, The Ohio State University*

Kenneth R. Jones

*Director, Program and Staff Development, Community
and Leadership Development, University of Kentucky*

Stephanie Jung

*Department Head, Professor, Food Science and
Nutrition, California Polytechnic State University,
San Luis Obispo*

Venu (Kal) Kalavacharla

*Associate Dean for Research, Professor and Director,
Center for Integrated Biological & Environmental
Research, College of Agriculture Science and
Technology, Delaware State University*

Robert Kallenbach

*Associate Dean and Senior Program Director,
Agriculture and Environment Extension,
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources,
University of Missouri*

Stefan Niewiesk

*Professor and Former Chair of Veterinary
Biosciences, College of Veterinary Medicine,
The Ohio State University*

Tom Porter

*Professor, Department of Animal and Avian Sciences,
University of Maryland*

K.P. Sandeep

*Department Head, Food, Bioprocessing and Nutrition
Sciences, NC State University*

Neal Schrick

*Department Head, Animal Science,
University of Tennessee*

Raymon Shange

*Director of Carver Integrative Sustainability
Center, Associate Extension Administrator/Associate
Dean, College of Agriculture, Environment and
Nutrition Sciences, Tuskegee University*

Adel Shirmohammadi

*Professor, Department of Environmental Science
and Technology and Former Associate Dean for
Research and Assoc Director of Maryland Agricultural
Experiment Station, University of Maryland*

Tara P. Smith

*Regional Director, Central Region, Louisiana State
University Agricultural Center*

Sriram R. Tharmapuram

Director-Consumer Science, Abbott Nutrition R & D

Johan B. Ubbink

*Professor and Head, Department of Food Science and
Nutrition, University of Minnesota*

Bob Wagner

*Professor and Head, Department of Forestry and
Natural Resources, Purdue University*

Shannon Washburn

*Chair, Department of Agricultural Communication,
Education, and Leadership, Professor, Agricultural
Education, College of Food, Agricultural, and
Environmental Sciences, The Ohio State University*

Hongwei Xin

*Dean and Director of UT AgResearch,
University of Tennessee*

APLU FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP AWARD



Dr. Wendy Wintersteen

President, Iowa State University

Dr. Wendy Wintersteen has served as President of Iowa State University since 2017. She is the 16th president of Iowa State, and the first woman to hold the university's highest office in its 160-year history.

Dr. Wintersteen has served many leadership roles for Iowa State University for more than 40 years, including 11 years as Endowed Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station.

Dr. Wintersteen began her career working in eastern and central Iowa as one of the first female ISU Extension associates in integrated pest management. She then completed her doctorate in entomology at Iowa State in 1988 and rose through the ranks to become a professor of entomology, while serving a brief stint at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C., as the Interim National Program Leader in Pesticide Education. Dr. Wintersteen took on progressively senior administrative roles in ISU Extension and became the senior associate dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and associate director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station in 2000.

During her 11-year tenure as agriculture and life sciences dean, Iowa State's agricultural programs ranked in the top 10 worldwide, college enrollment hit record levels to become the third largest college of agriculture in the nation, research grants increased markedly, awards for teaching excellence grew and the college achieved a 98% placement rate for its graduates. Dr. Wintersteen grew fundraising success for agricultural programs and facilities from \$5 million per year to \$30 million per year.

Dr. Wintersteen advances education, agriculture and food systems in many ways, including her service on the Board of Directors for the Cultivation Corridor, a regional economic initiative establishing Iowa as the global center for excellence in agricultural biosciences, advanced manufacturing, and technology sectors; as a member of the World Food Prize Council of Advisors; the Governor's STEM Advisory Council Executive Committee; past President of the Charles Valentine Riley Memorial Foundation; as a member of the Iowa Business Council's Business Education Alliance; and as a member of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Council of Presidents and the APLU Research Intensive Committee. Her past service during her tenure as dean included service as chair of the Administrative Heads Section of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities' Board on Agriculture Assembly; and service on boards of the Farm Foundation and the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology.

Dr. Wintersteen holds a bachelor's of science degree in crop production from Kansas State University (1974) and Ph.D. in entomology from Iowa State University.



