

# Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

Another year is coming to an end along with another semester of learning here at Oklahoma State University. Our students and faculty have been very busy both in and out of the classroom during 2008. As you will read in this edition, a number of our faculty and students have been recognized for their accomplishments. We are very proud to be able to brag on them and to share with you a sampling of the good things happening in the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership.

While we have many alumni and friends who support the department through ongoing donations for scholarships and awards, we wish to acknowledge the gift by Jack and Joyce Stuteville and First Capital Bank which will create the Rodger Howell Memorial Professorship in Agricultural Education. Through matches with a gift from T. Boone Pickens and state funds, the gift has the value of a \$1 million dollar endowment.

We are also proud of our alumni. Travis Brorsen and his dog Presley became celebrities on CBS by winning "Greatest American Dog" while many others were making impacts in their communities and classrooms. We would like to be able to share and celebrate your successes as well. If you have news to share with the department faculty and alumni, please send it to us. Who knows, you may be featured on our departmental website or in an issue of the Cowboy Journal.

It has been a very productive year for the department, and I have enjoyed working with the faculty, staff and students as the Interim Head of the Department. We hope to begin a national search for a new permanent head during the spring. We appreciate, at this time and throughout the year, your continued support, your efforts to send us your outstanding students and your financial support for student scholarships, internships, assistantships and other program enhancements.

On behalf of all of the faculty, staff and students, we wish you a happy holiday season and we look forward to partnering with you in 2009.

Sincerely,

*Charles B. Cox*

Charles B. Cox, Professor and Interim Department Head,  
Assistant Director and State 4-H Program Leader

## Congratulations!

Spring 2009

AgEd Inc.  
Scholarship  
Recipients

Matthew Barton

Suzanne Hermanski

Jarrod Johnson

Justin Kennedy

Amy Peel

Lindsey Pritchard

Richie Roberts

Brent Smith

Dayla Turner

### Hogland awarded Delmar Cengage Learning, 2008 Upper Division Scholarship

The NAAE and Delmar Cengage Learning awarded Emily Hogland a 2008 Upper Division Scholarship. The award aids with costs associated with student teaching. The 2008 Upper Division Scholarship awarded \$750 to each of 15 recipients.



Emily Hogland, senior in agricultural education, will be student teaching spring semester 2009. She is involved in Collegiate FFA and Alpha Tau Alpha Honor Society. Hogland is also a Student Academic Mentor for AG 1011.

### Westchester Foundation names Wiggins as recipient of 2008 Ag Scholarship

Lindy Wiggins, sophomore in Agricultural Communications and Animal Science, was named one of six new recipients of the Westchester Foundation Scholarship. Each recipient is awarded \$1,500 towards college expenses.

"This year's recipients are top-notch and we're grateful to have the resources available to ease the financial burden of higher education for these dedicated agricultural students," said Murray Wise, founder and CEO of Westchester Group, Inc.

The Westchester Foundation, created in 1997, serves the mission of enhancing agriculture by supporting the education of future agricultural leaders. The foundation works solely to provide funding for deserving agricultural students.

### Franke awarded OSU Outstanding Ph.D. Student 2008, Distinguished Graduate Fellowship

The Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership congratulates graduate student Tanya Franke for her recognition as OSU Outstanding Ph.D. student for 2008. Franke also received a Distinguished Graduate Fellowship for the 2008-2009 academic year.



The Distinguished Graduate Fellowship is a \$2,200 award given by the OSU Foundation and is based on GPA, scholarly contributions, awards, honors, research, publications, and presentations at professional meetings.

Franke is a graduate research associate in agricultural education. She is an active member of the Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership Graduate Student Association and served as their president this past academic year.

### Williams Distinguished Graduate Fellowships awarded

Congratulations to Angel Riggs and Assa Kante, graduate students in the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership and recipients of the Cletis & Martha Williams Distinguished Graduate Fellowship Award. This award of \$2,200 per year is available to recipients for up to two years if pursuing a master's degree and three years for doctoral students.

## OSU students and faculty featured in AIAEE July 2008 newsletter

The annual meeting of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education, held in Costa Rica March 9-15, 2008, hosted numerous OSU faculty and students.

Featured in "The Informer" are stories by, praise for and pictures of these individuals.

Check out the link for more information. [AIAEE Newsletter](#)



## Moriba awarded Weston Award for sub-Saharan African scholars



Congratulations to Samba Moriba, Ph.D. student in agricultural education for receiving the Weston Award. The Weston Awards Program recognizes eight students from sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia by providing financial assistance during their first year of study in the Fulbright program.

The Weston Award honors John Weston, a Fulbright scholar who received his master's degree in economics from the University of New Zealand.

Moriba is from Sierra Leone and graduated with his bachelor's (1998) and master's (2002) in agricultural education from Njala University. After lecturing there for four years, he came to OSU to pursue his doctoral degree.

After graduation, Moriba plans to return to Sierra Leone to be a professor and researcher at Njala University.

## Kante receives P.E.O. International Peace scholarship

Assa Kante, Ph.D. student in agricultural education received the P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship for the 2008-2009 school year. This scholarship is awarded to women from other countries to assist in their advanced education in the United States or Canada. Scholarship recipients must return to their home country after graduation to share their knowledge.

Kante is from Mali, West Africa. She graduated with her master's from Montana State University in May 2007.

## Agricultural Communications students and faculty participate in USDA Challenge Grant Project

Through funding from a \$465,000 USDA Challenge Grant, several agricultural communications seniors are participating in an integrated senior capstone experience to learn about the process of innovation. The project, Interdisciplinary Innovation Education to Solve Real Business and Design Problems, brought together students from agricultural communications, agricultural business, biosystems and agricultural engineering and mechanical engineering to work with small manufacturers from across the state.

"The innovations class is a great learning opportunity," said Nathan Fent, agricultural communication senior. "Having the chance to work on a multi-disciplinary team on a real-world design project has given me a good perspective not only on the efforts of other disciplines, but also helped me build my teamworking skills."

The objective of this project is to create workplace-ready graduates who are prepared to perform in a demanding and globalized marketplace. For more information on this project contact Cindy Blackwell at 405-744-5133.

## Faculty

Cindy Blackwell

Dwayne Cartmell

Charles Cox

Craig Edwards

Kathleen Kelsey

James Key

James Leising

Jon Ramsey

Tanner Robertson

Shane Robinson

Jim Rutledge

Jeff Sallee

Shelly Sitton

Bill Weeks

Penny Weeks

## Staff

Brooke Clay

Bonnie Milby

Shirley Stephens

Elizabeth Whitfield

### **Agricultural Education faculty member and student visit Kenya**

Craig Edwards, professor in Agricultural Education, and Tim Kock, doctoral student in Agricultural Education, traveled to Kenya to help with developing the extension program. Edwards and Kock spent time at Moi University meeting with administration and faculty.



The department hopes to continue the exchange of faculty and students with Moi University through a grant program and in collaboration with USDA, CSREES and the International Science Education program.

### **Leising receives AAAE award**

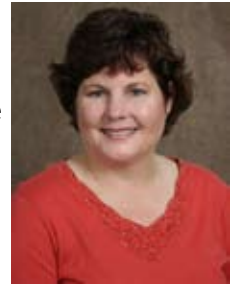
Jim Leising, professor and assistant director for international programs in agriculture, recently received the American Association for Agricultural Education Fellow Award.



AAAE recognized Leising for his more than 30 years as an active member in the organization at the 2008 AAAE Conference in Reno, Nev.

### **Kelsey wins American Association for Agricultural Education Award**

Congratulations to Kathleen Kelsey, professor and distance learning director for the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership. She was recognized as Author of the Year-Second Runner Up from the Journal of Agricultural Education Editing Managing Board.



AAAE presented the award on May 23, 2008, for Kelsey's article entitled, "Overcoming gender bias with self-efficacy: A case study of women agricultural education teachers and preservice teachers."

## Thank you

A special thanks to all our alumni in Oklahoma and elsewhere for your continued support of Oklahoma State University, the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership.

Your gifts of talent, financial backing and recruitment aid in the development of our programs and our students.

## **Agricultural Education graduate named finalist for Teacher of the Year**

Phillip Scott, 1974 OSU Agricultural Education graduate, was one of twelve finalists for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year.

Scott teaches at McAlester High School and previously taught agricultural education at Oilton High School.



Scott believes educators teaching science should “employ inquiry methods that focus on the ‘big ideas’ of science research.”

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year was announced in September at the State Fair of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City.

## **Stuteville endowment provides for professorship**

The Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Leadership extends its greatest thanks to Jack and Joyce Stuteville for their generosity.



Oklahoma State University has received a \$250,000 gift from Kingfisher residents Jack and Joyce Stuteville and First Capital Bank to establish an agricultural education professorship in honor of Jack’s high school agricultural education teacher, Rodger Howell. Once fully matched dollar-for-dollar by T. Boone Pickens’ \$100 million chair match commitment, as well as the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the gift will have the impact of \$1 million in endowed funds.

The CEO of First Capital Bank of Guthrie and Kingfisher and current Kingfisher Mayor, Jack received an agricultural education degree from OSU in 1969. He currently serves on the board of trustees of the OSU Foundation and is also involved in a cattle and farming operation in Kingfisher and the Okeene-Hitchcock area. Additionally, Jack is a former agricultural education teacher at Waukomis and Lomega. Joyce also received an OSU degree in elementary education in 1969.

This endowed position will help Oklahoma agriculture meet one of the important challenges it will face in the 21st century: preparing an educated workforce to meet industry needs. The gift will strengthen the college’s commitment to enhancing the educational opportunities of future agricultural education teachers.