Hutson School of Agriculture

Annual Report

Academic Year 2011-2012

"Excellence in Agriculture"
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Hello all #AgriRacers! As we have plunged into the social media world #AgriRacers has become our new twitter and is our theme for 2012-13. #AgriRacers really combines the two facets that our students, faculty, staff, and alumni are so very proud of and which tie us all together – MSU Agriculture and the MSU RACERS! Wow, what a year. For years, we have been touting the success of MSU Agriculture…this past year the country came to know us for our MSU Racer basketball as well. Ha!

My how times have changed…here’s a quick Brannon story to illustrate. One night a father who was sitting on the couch asked his teenage son to throw him the newspaper. The son replied…”Dad, no one uses a newspaper any more, it’s the 21st Century. Here use my iPad.” The father did…and that pesky fly never knew what hit him. LOL. (that means “Laugh Out Loud” for those who have not adapted to the new social media language)

Welcome to the world of Social Media. Twitter, Facebook, iPad’s, Podcasts, Blackboard, email, cell phones, web pages, Instagram’s, etc. have all changed the world we live in. It is a constant challenge to keep the message the same with an updated method of contact. We have strived to do that in the Hutson School of Agriculture. Our recruiting and contact efforts this past year, particularly at conventions and shows, have been centered on this new method of communication.

We have a great web page… www.murraystate.edu/agr. Please check us out. We now also have a Facebook page…Hutson School of Agriculture. If you are on Facebook, please “like” our page and follow what’s going on in the Hutson School of Agriculture. We now have a Twitter account… @msuagriculture. You can follow us on Twitter and communicate with fellow #AgriRacers.

As a common practice in the hiring process, we regularly call references and ask “What can you tell me about him/her?” Likewise, this past year it has been interesting to hear what others are saying about MSU Agriculture? As I travel the state and as we host statewide leaders at MSU, I have heard comments such as “the place to be in agriculture”, “so proud to be a Racer”, “the best program in Agriculture in Kentucky right now is at MSU”, “y’all are getting some of the best students in the state”, etc. Wow…we like what we have heard!

To perpetuate this theme…we would challenge you to, if you have not already done so, re-connect with us and let us know about your thoughts regarding MSU. Whether you are an alumni, friend, current student, or prospective student let us know what you are hearing or feeling about MSU Agriculture. Log onto our sites and/or send us an email and let us hear from you. Please enjoy all the updates about our 2011-12 accomplishments in this annual report.

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

Joy Brannon
The 2011 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus is outstanding in many ways, but most importantly, he is outstanding in the area of service to MSU. Mr. Phill Keith McCallon was born in 1956 and raised in Calloway County. He attended Calloway County High School, where he was active in Beta Club, Pep Club, and FFA. He served as FFA President and received his State Farmer Degree.

Phill enrolled in Murray State in 1978 and graduated in May 1978. While at MSU, he studied Agronomy and Agricultural Education. He was active in Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and the Ag Club. Phill also worked on the family farm and at Purchase Equipment while attending college. Following graduation, Phill moved to Memphis in June 1978 and began his career as a sales trainee at King Wallace, an allied line farm equipment distributor.

Phill later moved back to Murray and began his graduate coursework and met his future wife, Claydean, whom he married in November 1982. Phill completed his Master of Science degree in Agricultural Business in 1984.

His career path in small power equipment began in 1983 with Ingersoll Equipment Company. From 1985 to 1988, he worked at Shawnee Community College as director of the Small Business Development Center and a lecturer in Agriculture. Phill began his association with RedMax handheld outdoor power in 1988 when he began selling locally with Rasche Cycle Shop in Paducah. In May 2001, he became the first employee of RedMax Distributing division of Komatsu Zenoah America, which later became Husqvarna. Phill joined the RedMax Million Dollar Club as the last member in 2007. In 2009, he left Husqvarna to sell RedMax for Power Equipment Distributors in Richmond, MI. His sales territory now covers most of Kentucky and southern Illinois.

Phill has always been a proud supporter of Murray State and carries the MSU banner with him at all times. In addition to his outstanding sales career in agriculture, Phill has historically contributed much to the Agriculture Alumni Association and to MSU Agriculture. He served as President of the Agriculture Alumni Association in 1992 and as Treasurer of the organization for over 10 years. He has served as a board member and President of the MSU Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni Association and currently serves as Alumni Advisor. Phill has regularly served on special committees for MSU Agriculture, including the Agriculture Ambassador Selection Committee. He has been a proud supporter of the Calloway County Laker Band for the past 6 years and has served as the Treasurer and is the current Chairman of the Asbury Cemetery Association. Phill and his family attend the Kirksey United Methodist Church, where he is a former Board Chairman, current PPR Committee Chairman, and church lay leader.

Phill has truly demonstrated the outstanding characteristics of an alumnus of Murray State University and has had a tremendous impact upon the past, present, and future of agriculture. He has exemplified the combination of intellect, integrity, productivity, dedication, vision, and excellence that has led to his being named the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus.
Mr. Jacob Falwell was born and raised on a family farm in Calloway County and attended Calloway County High School, where he served as an FFA Officer and was selected as Best All-Around Senior Boy in 1998. He completed a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture degree in December 2001 with a specialization in Agricultural Education. During his tenure at Murray State, Jacob was extremely active in both School and University activities and was named the 2002 Murray State University Outstanding Senior Man in Agriculture and also Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Education.

Jacob began his agricultural experience on Falwell and Pitman farms as a teenager. During this time, he produced and managed up to 30 acres of dark-fired tobacco and worked in all aspects of a 3500 acre row crop farm. Jacob was the last of a chain of four brothers/cousins (Van Pitman, Andrew Falwell, and Grant Pitman) who each completed a successful degree program in agriculture at MSU while working on the family farm.

In 2002, Jacob began his Agricultural Education teaching experience at Calloway County High School. Since that time, he has led this program to new heights. He has trained or co-trained 18 FFA State Champions, and the Calloway County Chapter has won the MSU FFA Field Day sweepstakes trophy for the past seven years. Specifically, he has trained the state championship Landscape/Nursery Judging team in 3 of the past 5 years. Perhaps, an even more important indicator of his success can be found in the fact that the Calloway County agriculture students have scored higher that the state average on multiple statewide assessments since 2007, and CCHS students rank among the top 5 schools in Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards assessment in Horticulture.

Jacob was selected as the CCHS graduating class Baccalaureate speaker in 2009, the CCHS yearbook was dedicated to him in 2008, and he is a widely selected teacher to present diplomas at graduation. In addition to many other school duties, Jacob serves the Practical Living/Career Studies Department Chair and is a member of the Site Based Decision Making Council.

Jacob is also a member of the Calloway County Farm Bureau and Calloway County Young Farmers. He attends Glendale Road Church of Christ, where he has served as a high school and young adult Bible class teacher.

This individual has truly demonstrated the outstanding characteristics of an alumnus of Murray State University, and in his short career has had tremendous professional growth that is exhibited each May at the CCHS FFA Chapter banquet. He has exemplified the combination of energy, talent, integrity, productivity, dedication, vision, and excellence that has led to his being named the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumnus.
• **Dr. Iin Handayani**, Assistant Professor of Agronomy was approved for tenure and promoted to Associate Professor. Additionally, she was the recipient of the 2012 Murray State University Board of Regents Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence. Dr. Handayani was also named the “Woman of the Year” in Technology by GATRA magazine in Indonesia.

• **Dr. Bill DeWees**, Associate Professor of Animal Health Technology and Pre-Veterinary Medicine was named the 2012 Murray State University Health Matters for Students Mentor of the Year.

• The Hutson School of Agriculture welcomed **Dr. Kimberly Bellah**, Associate Professor of Agricultural Education to the Agricultural Science Department.

• The Hutson School of Agriculture welcomed **Mr. Mickey Webb** as the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Exposition Center Manager.

• **Dr. Alyx Shultz** was named the Midwestern Horseman of the Year for the 50 Year Horse Society.

• **Mr. Don Delaney** retired from the Huston School of Agriculture Equine Program following 10 years of service.

• **Mr. Ryan Morrow** and **Ms. Dean Ann Provine** were honored for 10 years of service, **Ms. Felecia Jones** was honored for 15 years of service, and **Dr. Ramesh Gupta** was honored for 25 years of service at the annual Faculty Recognition Banquet.

• **Dr. Tony Brannon** received the Outstanding Career and Technical Educator award from the Kentucky Association of Career and Technical Education.
New Scholarships

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

- **Richie McClerkin Memorial Scholarship**
  Friends and family finalized the endowment of the Richie McClerkin Memorial Scholarship. The new endowment celebrates Richie’s life, legacy, and loving spirit and will assist students in obtaining a degree in Agriculture. A special thank you is extended to the employees of Farm Credit Services Mid America who contributed over $13,000 toward Richie’s scholarship.

- **James T. Jennings Endowment Fund**
  James Jennings, ’94, established this endowment fund to assist students in the Hutson School of Agriculture obtain an education in the field of Agriculture. Interest earnings from the fund shall be used by the HSOA for: farm improvements, equipment, operations, supplies and maintenance; student scholarships; faculty development, programs, and initiatives; student activities; teaching materials or equipment; or student co-ops and internships.

- **Arlie & Maxine Scott Agriculture Scholarship**
  As a way to memorialize their loving spirits and to assist students at Murray State University in obtaining a college education in the field of agriculture, the Arlie & Maxine Scott Agriculture Scholarship was established. Through generous donations from the Scott’s two daughters, Carolyn Pitt and Jane Powell, the Arlie & Maxine Scott Agriculture Scholarship is now fully endowed and annual awards will be made in perpetuity. Professor Scott was a respected member of the Murray State University faculty, and his wife was an active member of the local community, especially with area 4-H Councils.
The Hutson School of Agriculture has received over $350,000 in outright and in-kind gifts for the fiscal year 2011-2012. These gifts include:

- $100,000 gift pledge from Don Young to be used to build a covering over the outdoor riding arena on the West Farm next to the Heathcott Rodeo Barn.
- $17,500 donation from Altria Group to fund the 2012-13 US Smokeless Tobacco Scholarships
- $16,578 gift from Tom Tuck to fund the Rodeo Club Stall Scholarship Endowment
- $12,750 from Security Seed & Chemical to fund their scholarship and internship program.

The Agriculture Campaign for Research and Education of Student (ACRES) came to a successful conclusion on October 14, 2011 and raised more than $2.1 million. On behalf of the Hutson School of Agriculture, we would like to thank everyone involved in the success of the campaign, and most of all, to our donors. The success of ACRES has enhanced the learning opportunities for Murray State agriculture students for generations to come.

A 25% increase was realized in the annual fund Racerthon for 2011-2012. These donations are from HSOA alumni and are unrestricted funds for the Hutson School of Agriculture.

During Homecoming 2011, the Bill and Merry Garret Agricultural Education and Research Center was dedicated in recognition of the generosity and unwavering support of Bill and his late wife, Merry, to the University and the Hutson School of Agriculture.

Members of MSU Administration, Hutson School of Agriculture Dean Dr. Tony Brannon, and HSOA student ambassadors Jeremiah Johnson and Becky Mosbacker were present for the dedication of the Bill and Merry Garret Agricultural Education and Research Center.
Student Achievements

- **Jeremiah Johnson** served as the 2011-2012 MSU SGA President and was elected to serve a second term during the 2012-2013 academic year. In addition, he was the recipient of the Vice President of Student Affairs Top 10 Student Leaders award.

- **Becky Mosbacher** was named the December 2011 Murray State University Outstanding Graduate.

- **Collegiate 4-H** was honored as the Most Improved Student Organization at the 2012 Student Leadership Awards Banquet.

- The **Agriculture Leadership Council** was recognized as the MSU Student Organization of the Year at the 2012 Student Leadership Awards Banquet.

- **James “Buddy’ Sledd** and **Amber Phillips** were selected as members of the 2011 Homecoming Court.

- **Katie LeBlanc** was awarded the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute Scholarship from Crop Science Society of America (CCSA). She is the first student from MSU to receive such an award, and only 21 scholars were selected nationwide. In addition, LeBlanc presented her research “Soil Responses to Various Farming Systems in Western Kentucky” at the American Society of Agronomy (ASA)-CCSA-Soil Science Society of America (SSA) Annual Meetings.

- **John McKinney** presented his research “Evaluating Soil Physical Properties in Disturbed and Undisturbed Ecosystems: Study Case in White County, Illinois” at the ASA-CCSA-SSA Annual Meetings.

- The **MSU Equestrian Teams** had a very successful season. The Hunt Team finished the 2011-2012 season as the first place team in Regional competition. **Morgan Parisek** qualified for national competition in Intermediate on the Flat and Over Fences, placing 7th in the Nation over fences. Alumni **Ashley Eggersdorfer** (2011) placed 7th in the Alumni Over Fences division, and **Samantha Erwin** (2011) placed 6th in the Alumni Flat division.

- The Stock Team had several members qualify for National Competition. **Morgan Parisek** finished the season 3rd in National Competition in Advanced Horsemanship. **Ethan Wilborn** was the high point rider for the Region, and went on to compete in Nationals where he placed 14th in Horsemanship and 2nd in Reining, with an overall point placing of 6th in the Nation. **Cassandra Walker** (2010) placed 2nd in Alumni Reining at the National level.

- **Tim Busse** and **Alyssa McSweeney** represented MSU as the 2011-2012 Racer I Jockeys.

- MSU’s **Collegiate FFA** attended National FFA Convention October 19-22, 2011 in Indianapolis, IN where they hosted the National Alpha Tau Alpha Conclave.
Student Achievements

- Members of the **MSU Equestrian Team** received national academic honors from the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. **Ashley Johnson**, **Catherine Cole**, **Ethan Wilborn**, **Lauren Hamm**, and **Sarah Brown** received All-Academic 1st Team Awards. **Alexa Cox**, **Alyssa Thomas**, **Andrea East**, **Cara Mekus**, **Courtney Harrison**, **Genoa Larcher**, **Jessica Scare**, **Loren Witt**, **Madeah Dauert**, **Marisa Bedron**, and **Veronica Decker** received All-Academic 2nd Team Awards.

- The **Agribusiness Club** hosted its annual golf scramble on October 28 at Miller Memorial Golf Course. The organization raised $1400 to benefit their annual Toys for Tots toy drive.

- **Block & Bridle** sponsored their third annual Steer & Heifer Show at the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Exposition Center March 30-31, 2012.

- The **Horticulture Club** was awarded 1st Place Vegetable Crops Team, 3rd Place Woody Ornamentals Team, and 3rd Place Team Overall at the Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Sciences Competition held during the Southern Association of Agricultural Sciences meeting in Birmingham, AL. Students receiving individual awards include **Alaina Tobbe**, 3rd Place Greenhouse Floral and Foliage Plants; **Derrick Farlee**, 1st Place Vegetable Crop; and **Alaina Tobbe**, 1st Place Overall Individual Award.

- The **Crops Team** traveled to Chicago, IL to compete in the National Collegiate Crops Contest in November. Team members included **Jessica Richey**, **Nicole Rhein**, **Stephanie Rexing**, **Mindy Hopson**, **Hanna Oliver**, and **John McKinney**. Team member **Mindy Hopson** placed 9th in Grain Grading.

- The **Agronomy Club** traveled to Iowa State University to participate in the Regional SASES meetings in March. This was a great opportunity for students to meet new people and learn more about Midwestern Agriculture.

- Members of the **MSU Ranch Horse Team** were recognized at the American Ranch Horse Association Year End Awards Banquet in Nashville, TN. **Jacob Schwarm** placed 1st in Ranch Sorting, 12th in Ranch Cutting, and tied for 39th place in Working Cow Horse; **Laney Workman** tied for 25 place in the Amateur Division overall, placed 11th in Horsemanship, placed 12th in Ranch Riding, placed 15th in Ranch Trail, and placed 27th in Ranch Reining; **Abby Harper** received 5th place in Timed Speed Events, a category that includes barrel racing and pole bending; **Annalisa Bertsch** placed 13th in Ranch Reining, and **Dylan Crain** placed 66th in Ranch Reining.
2011-2012 Award Winners

Outstanding Senior Man in Agriculture: Jeremiah Johnson
Outstanding Senior Woman in Agriculture: Becky Mosbacher
Outstanding Graduate Student in Agriculture: Matthew Chadwick, Baly Barlow, & Curtis Dame
Agriculture Leadership Award: Jeremiah Johnson
Outstanding Man in Alpha Zeta: Jeremiah Johnson
Outstanding Woman in Alpha Zeta: Becky Mosbacher
Outstanding Senior in Agribusiness: Katie Gibson & Kenneth Schilling
Outstanding Agricultural Education Student Teacher: Amie Buckman & Cody Vogt
Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Systems Technology: Ryan Wilson
Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Science: Jeremiah Johnson
Outstanding Senior in Agronomy: Katie LeBlanc
Outstanding Senior in Veterinary Technology: Katie Hughes
Outstanding Senior in Pre-Veterinary Medicine: Frank Bozelka
Outstanding Senior in Animal Science: Grady Cofield
Outstanding Senior in Equine Science: Cristi Caruso
Outstanding Senior in Horticulture: Toni Cortez

Go Getter Award: Joshua Bell
Christopher Bradley
Amber Harcrow
Amber Phillips
Cheyenne Willis

Outstanding Agribusiness Club Member: Katie Gibson & Susan Camp
Outstanding Agronomy Club Member: Stephanie Rexing
Outstanding Sigma Alpha Members: Samantha Anderson
Jessica Nave - Sigma Class
Katie Hogan - Senior
Alexa Irwin - Tau Class

Outstanding Block & Bridle Member: Becky Mosbacher
Outstanding AHT/Pre-Vet Club Member: Aundrea Fleck
Outstanding Alpha Gamma Rho Member: Jeremiah Johnson & Joshua Gilpin
Outstanding Horticulture Club Member: Alaina Tobbe
Outstanding Agricultural Engineering Technology Club Member: Greg Deahl & Rob Sanger
Outstanding Agriculture Ambassador: Jeremiah Johnson & Claire Crocker
Outstanding Stock Seat Equestrian Team Member: Ethan Wilborn
Outstanding Hunt Seat Equestrian Team Member: Cara Mekus
Outstanding Ranch Horse Team Member: Annalisa Bertsch
Outstanding Dressage Club Member: Elise Lofgren
Outstanding Horseman’s Club Member: Elise Lofgren
Outstanding Cowboy & Cowgirl: Logan Corbett & Kaitlyne Davis
MSU Rodeo Team Top Hand Award: Dillon Thweatt
Outstanding FFA Member: James “Buddy” Sledd & Amber Harcrow
Outstanding Collegiate 4-H Member: Kaitlan Dinges & Matthew Papineau
December 2011 and May 2012 Graduate Students participated in research projects as part of their Master’s Degree program requirements.

**December 2011**

- Jonathan Taylor Fenton (Simpsonville, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
  Thesis: *Alternate Management Intensive Grazing System for Stockers Grazing Cool Season Annuals During Spring*

**May 2012**

- Lauren A. Burris (Wyoming, DE)
  Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
  Research: *The Meat Goat Industry and the Proper Management Plan*

- Matthew T. Chadwick (Murray, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Pat Williams, Associate Professor Horticulture
  Thesis: *Developing a Master Plan for the Arboretum at Murray State University’s Native Area*

- Angela Claxton (Buchanan, TN)
  Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
  Thesis: *A Study in West Tennessee to Nutritionally Compare Herbicide Treated and Non-Herbicide Treated Bermudagrass Pastures*

- Chance L. Crain (Paris, TN)
  Advisor: Dr. Brian Hoover, Assistant Professor Agriculture Systems Technology
  Thesis: *Implementation of a Data Collection System on a Conventional Agricultural Combine for Use in Plot Research*

- Curtis L. Dame (Rumsey, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  Thesis: *The Application of Incident Command Strategies for the Hutson School of Agriculture Farm Operations at Murray State University*

- Allyson S. Hayes (Fort Pierce, FL)
  Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Animal/Equine Science Department Head
  Thesis: *The Occurrence of Internal Parasites in the Gastrointestinal Tract from Selected Groups of Longhorn and Angus Breed Cattle*
May 2012 continued

- Jeremiah W. Maynard (Paris, TN)
  Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson, Associate Professor Agronomy
  Thesis: Soil Parameters of a Grenada Silt Loam for Utilizing CropGro-Soybean Crop Simulation Model

- Kirby Lynne O’Donoghue (West View, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Jay Morgan, Associate Provost
  Thesis: Level of Concerns of KY Agricultural Educators Concerning Dual Credit Courses in Agriculture

- Robert W. Stuard (Trenton, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson, Associate Professor Agronomy
  Thesis: The Impact of Broiler Litter and Copper Fertility on Soybean Yield Components in Western Kentucky
UnderGraduate Research

Eleven Hutson School of Agriculture students prepared posters for Posters at the Capitol held on January 26, 2012 in Frankfort, KY. Participating students had the opportunity to present their work during a session of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

- **Methods of Sucker Control for Dark Fired Tobacco with Over-the-Top Applications**
  
  Susan Camp (Trenton, KY), Carey Boggess-Story (Murray, KY), and Charlton Story (Puryear, TN)
  
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson

- **Evaluation of Herbicide Treatments for Dark Fired Tobacco 2011**
  
  Trent Murdock (Murray, KY), Justin Parrish (Murray, KY), and JohnMichael Puckett (Murray, KY)
  
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. C. Gustav Helmers

- **Evaluation of Dark Air-Cured Tobacco Varieties**
  
  Brian Jarvis (Benton, KY), Robert Stuard (Trenton, TN), and Joseph Kelly (Murray, KY)
  
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. Iin Handayani

- **Prevalence of Bartonella Infection of Feline Patients in Kentucky Animal Shelters”**
  
  Kathryn Hogan (Frankfort, KY) and Dominique Peel (Stark, New Hampshire)
  
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bill DeWees
The Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC) is a fully accredited (AAVLD) animal disease diagnostic laboratory serving regional veterinarians, livestock commodity groups, government agencies, and animal owners. In contrast to other sectors of the economy, agriculture remains the primary economic engine of Kentucky. Reflecting continued agricultural growth, submissions to the BVC increased by 10% in 2011 over the previous year.

2011-2012 Caseload:
- 24,000+ diagnostic, regulatory, and disease surveillance cases were processed at the BVC.
- 100,000+ specimens were received for testing.
- 175,000+ individual tests performed
- Submissions reflect an increase in diagnostic testing with a decrease in government sponsored disease surveillance programs.

Staff Updates:
- The BVC welcomed Ms. Pat Godwin as the laboratory Quality Manager. The BVC is held to an international standard of quality management to ensure the validity of test results. Ms. Godwin brings long experience in laboratory and manufacturing quality management to the position.
- Ms. Michelle Lasher, who holds B.S.A. and M.S. degrees from Murray State University, joined the Toxicology Section.
- Dr. Ramesh Gupta, Professor and Head of the Toxicology, released his most recent textbook publication, *Veterinary Toxicology: Basic & Clinical Principles*, Second Edition. In addition, Dr. Gupta was the guest editor of *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* and published an additional 18 journal articles. Dr. Gupta continues to travel and speak nationally and internationally with presentations at the Eurotox Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden; the Conference of Kentucky Equine Research, Lexington, KY; the Florida International University, Miami, FL; the Society of Toxicology, San Francisco, CA; and the 8th International Brain Research Organization/World Congress of Neuroscience, Florence, Italy. Murray State University is fortunate to have a faculty member of Dr. Gupta’s stature.

Advisory Council:
The BVC Advisory Council held its annual meeting in May 2012. The Advisory Council’s function is to assess, advise, and advocate on behalf of the BVC. The 2012 meeting focused on formulating a fiscal plan for FY 12-13 and revising the BVC submission policies to encourage out-of-state submissions.

Breathitt Veterinary Center Project
The Kentucky General Assembly appropriated $4 million to advance the Breathitt Veterinary Center Project. The allocation of Agricultural Development Funds provides funding for the design/engineering and site acquisition phases of the project. The BVC project will provide a state-of-the-art laboratory facility to serve Kentucky agriculture.
The West Kentucky Livestock and Exposition Center was dedicated on May 21, 1977. The 45,000 square foot area includes a staging area, concession stands, classroom, offices, and seating for 2,748 spectators. Since the initial dedication, over 500,000 individuals have attended a wide array of events. The Expo was rededicated and named the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Agricultural Exposition Center on April 21, 2006.

**Selected 2011-2012 Expo Events**

**MSU College Rodeo:**
- 5 Regional Colleges Participating
- Saddle Bronc, Bareback Riding, Calf Roping, Team Roping, Goat Tying, Barrel Racing, Bull Riding

**Tractor and Truck Pull:**
- Open 2 & 4-wheel drive trucks, Pro-stock 4-wheel drive trucks, Super-stock tractors

**Bull Blowout**
- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 5,000

**Live Nativity Scene**
- Sponsored by United Methodist Churches of Calloway County

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

**Western Rivers Livestock Show**
- Livestock show and judging clinic
- Sponsored by 4-H and UK Agricultural Extension Service

**American Quarter Horse Association Shows**

**Antique Tractor Show**

**Ag Safety Days**

**Block & Bridle Steer & Heifer Show**

**4-H Horse Camp**

**MSU Rodeo Barrel Race Classic**

**KY High School Rodeo State Finals**
Twilight Tobacco Tour

The Twilight Tobacco Tour was held August 4, 2011. This yearly event sponsored by the Hutson School of Agriculture and University of Kentucky Extension Service allows area tobacco producers to tour the University’s West Farm complex and observe ongoing tobacco research plots. Research conducted during the 2011 growing season included variety trials, herbicide trials, and sucker control trials. Dr. Andy Bailey was on hand to discuss ongoing tobacco research, and all participants were treated to dinner following the tour.

Back to School Picnic

The Hutson School of Agriculture hosted its annual Back to School Picnic on August 23, 2011 at the West Farm Complex. Over 365 agriculture students, faculty, and staff attended “A Taste of MSU Agriculture” and sampled a variety of agricultural products including fried catfish, pork chops, steaks, and chicken strips.

This annual event is a great way to kick off the Fall semester and welcome our 190 incoming freshmen to the Hutson School of Agriculture family.

Racer Roundup

Murray State University’s Collegiate FFA hosted its 17th annual Racer Roundup Leadership event on September 16, 2011 in the MSU CFSB Center. Special guests in attendance included Dr. Dwight Armstrong, CEO of the National FFA Organization, James Flatt, 2010-2011 National FFA Southern Region Vice President, and Warren Beeler of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. The event hosted approximately 630 high school FFA members ranging from freshmen to seniors. This year’s event unveiled a new component in the program by targeting College and Career Readiness for seniors in a special "Senior Seminar." Underclassmen attended four concurrent break out sessions focusing on leadership development led by Hutson School of Agriculture students.
The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Ag Leadership Council hosted the eighth annual “Fall on the Farm” September 21-24, 2011. Over 1,200 area elementary and pre-school students and more than 1,000 members of the community attended this event. Students and teachers from Benton Elementary, Jonathan Elementary, Southwest Calloway Elementary, Murray Elementary, Eastwood Christian Academy, Farmington Elementary, East Calloway Elementary, South Marshall Elementary, and North Calloway Elementary attended this year’s event.

Fall on the Farm strives to provide both an educational and entertaining agricultural experience to children and adults. Returning events included a corn maze, corn pit, petting zoo, pony rides, pumpkin painting, hay loft slide, climbing walls, water balloon slingshot, inflatable horse races, pedal tractors, rubber duck races, butter making, and milk cow demonstrations as well as educational sessions presented by the Kentucky Soybean Association and area beekeepers. This event continues to grow each year and is made possible thru the support of our faculty, staff, and students, as well as numerous corporate sponsors.
The 49th annual Agriculture Alumni Association Picnic was held in conjunction with MSU Homecoming activities on October 14, 2011. Special recognition was given to graduates from the classes of 1961 and 1986 to commemorate their 50th and 25th anniversaries. Over 150 MSU Agriculture Alumni and their families attended this year’s event at the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Expo Center. Games and activities available for children, as well as those young at heart helped make this year’s homecoming celebration a family friendly event. Mr. Phill McCallon (M.S.) was presented the Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus during a special Dean’s Circle luncheon. Mr. Jacob Falwell (M.S.) was named the 2011-2012 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumni. Ms. Sue Huston and Dr. Robert D. Miller were presented School of Agriculture Support Awards for their generous contributions to both the program and the University.

Hutson School of Agriculture students Audie Cherry (Clay, KY), Amelia Futrell (Cadiz, KY), Katie Gibson (Corydon, IN) and Amber Phillips (Hardinsburg, KY) were presented with Alumni Association Scholarships during the event as well.

In an effort to give back to the schools that have supported the Hutson School of Agriculture’s “Fall on the Farm” event since its inception in 2004, the Agriculture Leadership Council adopted Kentucky Farm Bureau’s “Learning Barn” project. With construction help from MSU staff members Ryan Morrow and Rhea Ann Wright, and book donations from C.A. Jones Management Group and the Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board, the ALC was able to place 5 barn-shaped bookcases filled with a collection of agriculture themed books in area elementary school. Barns were placed in the libraries at North, Southwest, and East Calloway Elementary School, Murray Elementary, and Harrelson School in Puryear, TN.
Toys for Tots Toy Drive

The Murray State University Agribusiness Club and members of the Agriculture Systems Technology Club teamed up to sponsor the sixth annual Toys for Tots toy drive this year in memory of former agribusiness professor, Dr. Ken Bowman, who passed away in 2006. This project supports the efforts of the Calloway County Family Resource Center Santa Project and the Murray Family Resource Center Tiger Christmas. Students collected over 400 toys to help fill Christmas wish lists for Children in Murray and Calloway County. In addition, the club sponsored a glow-golf scramble to help raise funds for the toy drive. The toys and more than $1400 in cash donations were delivered by Agribusiness and Agriculture Systems Technology Club members on December 9, 2011.

Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon

The annual “Excellence in Agriculture” luncheon was held January 26, 2012. This marked the seventh year for the event designed to recognize outstanding students in the Hutson School of Agriculture. Students in attendance were nominated by faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to both the University and the Hutson School of Agriculture.

Mr. Warren Beeler, Kentucky Department of Agriculture Director of the Division of Show and Fair Promotion served as keynote speaker for this year’s event. During his presentation, Beeler encouraged students to pursue careers in the agriculture industry.
Soybean Promotion Day

The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board sponsored the eighth annual Soybean Promotion Day on January 24, 2012 at the Murray State University CFSB Center. This event provides area farmers and agribusinesses with an opportunity to attend informational sessions focused on current trends and developments in agriculture as well as soybean production.

Mr. Kip Cullers, record setting corn and soybean producer from Purdy, Missouri opened the program with an inside look at his successful production practices, including methods for increasing crop yields.

Mr. Damian Mason, comedian and businessman from Huntington, Indiana served as keynote speaker for the evening. Mason’s “Humor for the Heart of Agriculture” provided fun, farm-themed humor while also stressing the importance of pride and professionalism in the agriculture industry. He also stressed the importance of passing on our agriculture legacy to future generations.

Career Fair

The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Agriculture Leadership Council hosted the Agriculture Career Fair on February 1, 2012. Over thirty companies were represented this year at the career fair, and approximately 250 agriculture students attended the event. This annual event gives MSU Agriculture students the opportunity to interact with representatives from companies covering a wide range of agriculture-related careers. Many companies also conduct on-site interviews for open positions and summer internships.
**Alpha Zeta Awards Banquet**

Alpha Zeta Agriculture Honors Fraternity hosted their annual awards banquet on April 4, 2012. Approximately 450 students, parents, and MSU faculty, staff, and administration attended the banquet. Clubs and organizations take this opportunity each year to recognize their outstanding members. In addition, the Hutson School of Agriculture also recognized its scholarship recipients and outstanding seniors for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Dean, Dr. Tony Brannon presented Mr. Jeremiah Johnson with the 2011-2012 Senior Man in Agriculture award. Assistant Dean, Dr. Dwayne Driskill presented Ms. Becky Mosbacher with the 2011-2012 Senior Woman in Agriculture award.

**FFA Field Day**

The 60th annual Murray State University FFA Field Day was held April 18, 2012 at the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Expo Center. Over 1,200 students representing 44 high schools from Kentucky, Tennessee, and Illinois competed in events including livestock judging, tractor driving, tobacco judging, nursery and floriculture contests, seed and weed identification, goat tying, roping, auctioneering and horsemanship. Calloway County High School finished first in overall competition for the seventh consecutive year.
Governor’s Scholars Program

Nineteen high school students from across Kentucky participated in the Agribusiness and Biotechnology section of GSP. Scholars in this focus group spent five weeks on the campus of Murray State University exploring the many facets of the agricultural industry. Special sessions designed to give students a hands-on approach to agriculture were conducted by Hutson School of Agriculture faculty and staff. At the University’s farms, discussed horticulture and organic gardening, and participated in Veterinary Technology laboratory activities. Scholars also traveled to Breathitt Veterinary Center, where they partnered with doctors and technicians to perform laboratory exercises in necropsy, serology, virology, toxicology, and DNA.
Racer Academy

2011-2012 Academic Year Enrollment Report

Traditional Bridge Course Update
- Calloway County High School
  - AGR 199 - 9 students enrolled
  - AGR 100 - 5 students enrolled
- Dr. Kimberly Bellah, Dr. Alyx Shultz, and Mr. Brandon Wilson facilitated instruction on Mondays and Wednesdays at Calloway County Campus

AGR 199, AGR 100, and AGR 133 Expansion Current Standings
- Offered courses in 27 high schools
- Instruction provided via Blackboard for received applicants
- Participating schools
  - Allen County High School
  - Anderson County High School
  - Butler County High School
  - Caldwell County High School
  - Calloway County High School
  - Carlisle County High School
  - Christian County High School
  - Clark County High School
  - Collins High School
  - Crittenden County High School
  - Franklin County High School
  - Graves County High School
  - Green County High School
  - Heath High School
  - Hickman County High School
  - Lincoln County High School
  - Lone Oak High School
  - Lyon County High School
  - Muhlenberg County High School
  - Scott County High School
  - Shelby County High School
  - Spencer County High School
  - Todd County High School
  - Walton Verona High School
  - Webster County High School
  - Western Hills
**Racer Academy**

*Schools With Students Enrolled in AED 104 via Web*

Introduction to Agriculture Education, Leadership and LikeKnowledge

- Total enrollment - 32 students
- Instruction was provided via the web in various schools throughout the state

**High Schools Participating in AED 104**

- Bullitt Central High School
- Carlisle County High School
- Casey County High School
- Jessamine County High School
- Lone Oak High School
- Nelson County High School
- Rockcastle County High School
- Stewart County High School (TN)
- Todd County Central High School
- Whitley County High School
- Williamstown Independent High School
- Woodford County High School
• **Study Abroad**  
**Hungary/Austria May 13-24, 2012**

On May 13-24, 2012, members of the Hutson School of Agriculture embarked upon a short-term study abroad tour of Hungary and Austria. The trip included agricultural tours of sites and locations of notable historical and national importance. Nine students participated in this Eastern European agriculturally focused trip. Faculty members leading the trip were as follows: Dr. Bill Payne and Dr. Gustav Helmers, Agriculture Business and Economics; Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean; Judy Payne, Career and Technical Education; and Ms. Tina Driskill, wife of Dr. Dwayne Driskill.

The group met with Dr. Istvan Feher upon arrival in Hungary. Dr. Feher is a long-time friend of MSU Agriculture, and is currently a professor of Agricultural Economics at St. Istvan University in Godollo, Hungary. Dr. Feher provided the group with an inside look at the agriculture industry in both Hungary and Austria. Students participating in the international trip received credit for their planning and preparation for the trip, journaling of their experiences and perceptions, as well as preparing a blog entry upon their return to the United States.
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<th>Event</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
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<td>School of Agriculture Picnic (retention)</td>
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<td>9/16/2011</td>
<td>Racer Roundup</td>
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<td>9/16/2011</td>
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<td>Regional College Fair</td>
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<td>National Farm Machinery Show (4 days)</td>
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<td>Purchase FFA Speaking Day (10 Schools)</td>
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<td>4/18/2012</td>
<td>FFA Field Day (43 Schools - IL, KY)</td>
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<td>Summer Orientation V</td>
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**Total:** 7336
# High School & Community College Visits

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<td>9/12/2011</td>
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<td>Caldwell County High School</td>
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<td>Hickman County Career Fair</td>
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<td>Ren Lake Community College</td>
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<td>Lone Oak High School</td>
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<td>Oldham County High School</td>
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<td>Reidland High School</td>
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<td>Spencer County High School</td>
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<td>North Posey High School</td>
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<td>9/30/2011</td>
<td>Mt. Vernon High School</td>
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<td>10/5/2011</td>
<td>Anderson County High School</td>
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<td>10/5/2011</td>
<td>Franklin County High School</td>
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<td>Scott County High School</td>
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<td>Carlisle County High School</td>
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<td>Marion High School (IL)</td>
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<td>Henry County High School (TN)</td>
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<td>11/21/2011</td>
<td>Marshall County High School</td>
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<td>Lyon County High School</td>
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<td>Valmeyer High School (IL)</td>
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<td>Peabody &amp; Gibson Co. High Schools (TN)</td>
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<td>Breckinridge County High School</td>
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<td>Meade County High School</td>
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<td>5/28/2012</td>
<td>Henry County High School</td>
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**Total** 1177
## FFA Banquets Attended

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<tr>
<td>4/14/2012</td>
<td>Henry County High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>4/20/2012</td>
<td>Trigg County High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>4/26/2012</td>
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<td>Hickman County High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>5/7/2012</td>
<td>Graves County High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>5/8/2012</td>
<td>Madisonville North Hopkins High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>5/10/2012</td>
<td>Ballard Memorial High School FFA Banquet</td>
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<td>5/11/2012</td>
<td>Livingston County High School FFA Banquet</td>
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Hutson School of Agriculture
Freshmen Enrollment History
Fall 1991 - Fall 2011

Hutson School of Agriculture
Total Enrollment History
Fall 2004 - Fall 2011
Hutson School of Agriculture
Degrees Conferred
2003-2011

Degrees Conferred

Year

03-04 04-05 05-06 06-07 07-08 08-09 09-10 10-11

138 149 142 163 156 141 150 139
School of Agriculture
Freshmen retention
Begin Fall 2008 - Return Fall 2009
* Information is based on the most current Retention Fact Sheet available from MSU

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<th>Academic Program</th>
<th>Initial Cohort</th>
<th>Returned to Same Major</th>
<th>Returned to Same Dept.</th>
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<th>Returned to Any Program</th>
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<td>Agricultural Science</td>
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<td><strong>MSU Overall</strong></td>
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<td><strong>49.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>53.7%</strong></td>
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