HUTSON SCHOOL
OF AGRICULTURE

ANNUAL REPORT

Academic Year 2012-2013

"Excellence in Agriculture"
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Each year the Hutson School of Agriculture (HSOA) solicits input to come up with a different theme for our student recruitment efforts. That theme usually ends up on t-shirt apparel that we give out to prospective students. As we’ve continually built our program, this year our students and staff felt it only fitting to take a slant on the Duck Dynasty theme with “MSU Agriculture…Where Winners Migrate”. To confirm the truth of that theme, all you have to do is ask around. Kentucky Department of Agriculture Commissioner James Comer knows agriculture. “Murray State has the top agriculture program in the state of Kentucky,” Comer said during a recent series of speeches. “Right now, my children (both very young) are not really showing any interest in pursuing agriculture. If that changes, though, and they want to major in agriculture, I’d send them to Murray State University. They have done an outstanding job for many years and continue to do amazing things with that program.”

Whether it is our growing enrollment, our award winning faculty and staff, or with our role in developing, protecting and sustaining modern agriculture, the Murray State University HSOA has, as Commissioner Comer realizes, “taken our place” as a winner.

**Winning Fact #1: Student Enrollment**
First, we have an award-winning and growing number of students. This fall, we have an all-time record 225 freshman, another 5% increase over 2012. Our expected total enrollment in the HSOA should exceed 900, a 4% increase over our previous all time high enrollment in 2012. This number of students does not include our exponentially increasing number of Racer Academy of Agriculture students. The Racer Academy of Agriculture is a series of dual credit courses offered by the HSOA in high schools all across Kentucky. Through a USDA Capacity Building Grant, we have developed a series of six classes that can be taught through the secondary agricultural education program for college credit. Through this program, we have currently enrolled 104 students in 15 of the 18 counties in our local Service Region. Reaching far outside our service area, we have enrolled over 200 students in a MSU Racer Academy course in an additional 30 schools from as far away as Lee County and Morgan County. Through this program, we have a great opportunity to expose these excellent students from all across the state to Murray State and recruit them to join us next year as full time students.

**Winning Fact #2: Award Winning faculty and staff who serve students.**
As President Miller has said “students are our clients and the reason we exist”. Across the board, our HSOA faculty and Staff members are student centered and serve as role models in this area. Just last year, Dr. Dwayne Driskill was named the inaugural Faculty Distinguished Service Award winner and Dr. Pat Williams was named the Distinguished Professor. Ms. Rhea Ann Wright was the Jim Bauer Outstanding Service award winner and a recipient of the Staff Excellence Award. In addition, our HSOA is full of past award winners in Teaching, Research, Staff Excellence and Mentorship.

**Winning Fact #3: Developing, Protecting and Sustaining Modern Agriculture**
To develop a winning Agriculture program we have to maintain excellence in our Farm and Programmatic laboratories. Mediocrity is not an option. These laboratories found on the Pullen Farm,
West Farm, North Farm and the newly donated Hutson Farm not only support our excellent academic programs but they also provide hands-on student work and learning opportunities and support the agricultural industry of our region. On our farms, we work with other universities and companies to conduct trials and research on crops and develop model systems of animal grazing and forage production. Other facility laboratories are found throughout our farms such as The Arboretum at MSU, the Cherry Expo Center and the Carman Pavilion, a vitally important laboratory to our accredited Veterinary Technology program. Last but certainly not least, through our barns, stables and pastures, MSU Agriculture supports our enrollment by providing many students the opportunity to bring their horse to college with them.

One of the most treasured jewels in the crown of Murray State is found at the Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC) in Hopkinsville. Fully accredited in all animal species, the BVC is a critical segment of animal agriculture in Western Kentucky as well as companion animal medicine. Last year, over 22,000 cases for diagnostic, regulatory or disease surveillance were processed.

Our latest initiative, West Kentucky AgBioworks, is a collaborative effort with the Baurenfiend College of Business and the Jones College of Science, Engineering and Technology to serve as a catalyst to the developing BioEnergy industry. Through this effort, we have received several grants from the Kentucky Department of Energy and Environment and the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture that will help us utilize Biomass and BioEnergy Crops to add heat to our Equine Instructional Facility Center.

As I begin my 26th year at MSU and my 17th year as an administrator, I am extremely thankful that I have had the opportunity to work with a lot of winners who have migrated to and through MSU Agriculture. “MSU Agriculture…Where Winners Migrate”.


The 2012 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus award was presented to Dr. Buddy Ray during the 2012 Agriculture Alumni Association’s Dean’s Circle Luncheon held in conjunction with MSU Homecoming activities. Dr. Ray is the first veterinarian to receive this honor.

Buddy, son of Buren and Mildren Ray was born in 1952. He attended Lowes High School, where he served as KY State Vice-President of the FFA. Buddy enrolled in Murray State in 1970 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and a minor in Chemistry and Biology. He is a 1978 graduate of Auburn University, where he graduated with honors and served as class vice-president.

Dr. Ray began his veterinary career with Effingham Veterinary Clinic in Effingham, IL, and then spent four years at Crittenden County Veterinary Services in Marion, KY. He returned home and began his association with Mayfield Veterinary Service in 1982. He recently retired after 20 years of practice with Mayfield Veterinary Clinic in Mayfield, KY. In 2006, he founded and is owner/operator of Bovine Consulting Associates, LLC, a stocker, feedlot consulting service with clients in 11 different states.

Dr. Ray is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association, where he has served on the Executive Board and also as President. He also served as President of the Jackson Purchase Veterinary Association, and is a member of several other Academies and Associations.

He serves on several boards, including the Professional Veterinary Products, LTD, Bayer Animal Health Food Animal Advisory Board, and is the Outside Board member for River Valley Ag Credit Association.

He is an active member of Trace Creek Baptist Church, serving as a deacon and Men’s Bible Study teacher.

Dr. Ray 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 Veterinary Medicine, he has hired numerous MSU graduates to work in his practice and business. He enjoys farming, feeding cattle, traveling (he’s been to all 50 states and 6 of the continents), and being with family. Dr. Ray’s wife, Phyllis Jean Dickerson Ray is also a graduate of MSU with a BS and MS in Elementary Education. She is a first grade teacher at Central Elementary in Graves County. They have three children, Ken, Kimberly, and Justin. Ken and Justin are both graduates of MSU, and Kimberly is an alumnus of Georgetown and the University of Kentucky.

Dr. Ray 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 him being named the recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus of Murray State University.
In 2012, the Murray State University Agriculture Alumni Association selected two recipients for the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, and both of these individuals have made a tremendous impact on agriculture and the United States of America. These recipients have truly demonstrated the outstanding characteristics of an alumnus of Murray State University, and in their short careers, have had tremendous professional growth in serving agriculture and the United States government. They have exemplified the combination of energy, talent, integrity, productivity, dedication, vision, and excellence that has led to them being named recipients of the 2012 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumnus Award.

The first outstanding young alumnus is Ms. Ashlee Vinyard. Throughout her career, Ashlee has always made a name for herself. Ashlee grew up in Carlisle County near Fancy Farm, KY. She graduated as Valedictorian of her senior class from Carlisle County High School. Although she grew up on a small farm, she credits “Mr. Bob”, Bob Wilson, her high school agriculture teacher as the person who had a major impact on her decision to pursue an agricultural degree. He showed her all the opportunities that FFA and agriculture could provide, and it was Mr. Bob who bestowed upon her the nickname “Vinny”.

Ashlee graduated from MSU in May 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. While at MSU she was a student worker in the School of Agriculture, an Agriculture Ambassador, an Agriculture Leadership Council Member, and traveled abroad as part of the Discover Korea program. She was named the Outstanding Senior in Agriculture Science, the Outstanding Agriculture Ambassador, and was named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

After graduation from MSU, Ashlee traveled west to Texas Tech to pursue her Master’s degree in Agricultural Education and Communication, which she obtained in December 2004. Upon graduation, she was selected as the Outstanding Graduate Student in Agricultural Education and Communication. To the faculty, staff, and students at Texas Tech, Ashlee was know as “Fancy” - short for Fancy Farm.

She began her professional work experience as an intern for Congressman Lamar Smith from Texas in August 2004. Since that time, Ashlee has advanced through a series of job titles such as Legislative Correspondent, Legislative Assistant, and Administrative Director to her present position as Legislative Director where she serves as chief legislative advisor and strategist on agriculture, appropriations, homeland security, educations, taxes, banking, and budget issues.
The second recipient of the 2012 Outstanding Young Alumnus is Mr. Roy Justin Taylor. Justin is originally from Fulton County. He was an active member of the FFA and was very involved in the area of technology.

Justin received his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and Spanish from Murray State in May 2003. During his years at MSU, he was an intern in Washington DC for the USDA in the summers of 2002 and 2003.

Following his graduation from MSU, Justin moved to Gainesville, FL and completed his MS in Food and Resource Economics at the University of Florida. During that time, he worked in Serbia for four months during the summer of 2004 as part of the Coca Cola Fellowship Program.

In 2005, Justin went to work for USDA in Madrid, Spain and in January 2006 he began working full-time with the USDA in Washington DC as a database analyst and became the Lead Analyst for Global Wheat and Barley. In 2008, he entered the Foreign Agricultural Service with USDA and was assigned to Hanoi, Vietnam. He studied the Vietnamese language intensively from August 2008 to July 2009 and worked in Vietnam until December 2011. For family reasons and to be closer to his extended family, Justin left the U.S. Government in December 2011 and joined a private company in Cary, NC called Arysta Lifescience, where he is serving as the Global Markets Analysts. Arysta is the world’s largest, privately held AgChem company with about $1.3 billion in sales around the world each year. In his current position, Justin concentrates on improving internal information systems to capture sales and profit figures within various countries so that they can track the relative profitability of each product line. He helps with new product/new business analysis and is working to streamline the research and development prioritization process.

We believe that Dr. Ken Bowman would be proud of this summary description of Justin...International Economist with top secret clearance and 8 years of experience conducting economic analysis of both global agricultural trends and local markets across a variety of countries. He is a multi-lingual strategic planner with a proven record of deconstructing problems, creating solutions, and executing change.

Justin and his wife, Carolyn, are the parents of two girls, Selma and Anna.
• Dr. Iin Handayani, Assistant Professor of Agronomy was the keynote speaker at the International Seminar on Waste Management Technology for Agricultural Sustainability and Global Warming Mitigation in Malang, Indonesia. Dr. Handayani was also the recipient of the Hutson School of Agriculture Outstanding Research Award.

• Dr. Pat Williams, Associate Professor of Horticulture was the recipient of the 2013 MSU Alumni Association Distinguished Professor Award.

• Dr. Kimberly Bellah, Associate Professor of Agricultural Education was the recipient of the Online Educator Badge of Distinction awarded by Murray State University CTLT and the National Association of Agricultural Educators’ Thirty Minute Award.

• The Hutson School of Agriculture welcomed Dr. Shea Porr, Assistant Professor of Equine Science to the Department of Animal Science.

• Retired Hutson School of Agriculture faculty member, Dr. Jim Rudolph was awarded the 2012 Newell G. Hicks Vision Award at the North American International Livestock Exposition.

• Dr. Dwayne Driskill was presented with the 2013 Murray State University Faculty Distinguished Service Award at the annual Faculty Recognition Banquet.

• Ms. Sue Robinson and Mr. J.D. VanHooser were awarded for 10 years of service to Murray State University. Dr. Wade Northington was awarded for 15 years of service, Dr. Louis Pittman, Jr. was awarded for 20 years of service, and Dr. Harry “Kent” Whitaker was recognized for 40 years of service at the annual Faculty Recognition Banquet.

• Dr. Kimberly Bellah, Associate Professor of Agricultural Education was granted tenure.

• Dr. Wade Northington, Director Breathitt Veterinary Center, was promoted to Professor.

• Ms. Rhea Ann Wright was the recipient of the 2013 Jim Bauer Outstanding Staff Service Award and a 2013 Murray State University Staff Excellence Award.
Grants/Giving

- Allegro Fine Foods and the family of the late Dave Wilcox pledged a $20,000 annual commitment for the Betsy Ross Wilcox Rodeo Scholarship as well as the Betsy Ross Wilcox Memorial FFA Scholarship and other Hutson School of Agriculture initiatives. This gift is in perpetuity. The HSOA has recently constructed a plaza outside of Oakley Applied Science Building South Tower. There will be a dedication of this plaza in honor of Mr. Dave Wilcox on October 4, 2013 in tribute to his support of students and many gifts to the University.

- A gift of $50,000 was given by Ms. Cindy Hutson, who continues to support the Hutson School of Agriculture.

- A gift of $18,000 was received from Mr. Tom Tuck to support his annual scholarship.

- Mr. Dale Swift of Swift Environmental provided the labor and machinery to construct the pond and mountain exhibit at the Arboretum at Murray State University.

- There was a 26% participation increase of the Hutson School of Agriculture alumni during the annual Racer-Thon campaign. Through the annual fund, last year more than $15,000 was donated to the Hutson School of Agriculture to support various scholarships, student programs, and departments to enhance the educational experience for current and future agriculture students.
Student Achievements

- **Jeremiah Johnson** served as the 2012-2013 MSU SGA President and was elected to serve a third term during the 2013-2014 academic year. He also served as the chairman of the Kentucky Board of Student Body Presidents.

- **Michael Dobbs** was selected as the 2012 MSU Homecoming King. In addition, he was selected as the 2013-2014 Student Government Association Secretary and as the External Vice-President of Interfraternity Council.

- **Samantha Anderson** was chosen to participate in the USDA’s Outlook Forum Student Diversity Program held in Arlington, VA February 21-22, 2013. In addition, Samantha was selected as SGA Senator at Large for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- **Hannah Robbins**, senior agronomy student received 2nd place Poster Presentation Undergraduate Research in Crops and Soils Division during the Annual Meeting of Southern Branch - American Society of Agronomy in Orlando, FL for her research “Soil Organic Matter and Aggregation in Relation to Three Agricultural Systems.

- The **Horticulture Club** was awarded 1st Place Vegetable Crops Team, 3rd Place Fruit and Nut Crop Judging Team, and Outstanding Club Share Award at the Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Sciences Competition held during the Southern Association of Agricultural Sciences meeting. Students receiving individual awards include **Elizabeth Bloem**, 2nd Place Vegetable Judging; **Brett Mitchell**, 3rd Place Vegetable Judging; and **Landon Gibbs**, 2nd Place Overall Individual Award. Additionally, **Brett Mitchell** was elected as the SRASHS Secretary for 2013.

- The **MSU Equestrian Teams** had a very successful season. The Hunt Team finished the 2011-2012 season 4th place in the Regional. Six riders qualified for Regional competition, and three riders qualified for Zone competition. The Stock team finished their season 2nd place in the Region. Eleven riders qualified for Regional competition, 6 riders qualified for Semi-finals, and 1 rider advanced to National competition in Harrisburg, PA. MSU graduate student, **Cassandra Walker** placed first in the Alumni Reining Championship at the National level. **Ashley Johnson**, a junior from Mechanicsville, VA was the recipient of a $1000 IHSA scholarship.

- The **MSU Dressage Club** travelled to shows in Illinois and Kentucky where they received championships in various levels of competition.

- The **Horsemanship Club** collected over 700 items for the Need Line food drive sponsored by Alpha Zeta.

- **Rayna Gordon** was selected as the 2013 Ms. MSU. **Chelsea Daugherty** was 1st runner up, and **Joy Straney** was 4th runner up in the annual event.

- The **Agribusiness Club** hosted its annual golf scramble on September 28 at Miller Memorial Golf Course. The organization raised $1300 to benefit their annual Toys for Tots toy drive.
**Student Achievements**

- **Joy Straney** was selected as SGA Senator at Large for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- **Luke King, Hunter Easterling,** and **Bekkah Brennan** were selected as Hutson School of Agriculture SGA Senators for the 2013-2014 academic year.

- **McKell Davis** represented the Jackson Purchase in the Miss Kentucky USA pageant and finished 5th.

- Senior Hutson School of Agriculture student **Jenna Knott** was ranked among the top five female trapshooters in the nation by the Amateur Trapshooting Association.
2012-2013 Award Winners

Outstanding Senior Man in Agriculture: Brian Jarvis & Grady Cofield

Outstanding Senior Woman in Agriculture: Amber Phillips

Outstanding Graduate Student in Agriculture: Mindy Hopson

Agriculture Leadership Award: Samantha Anderson

Outstanding Man in Alpha Zeta: Jeremiah Johnson

Outstanding Woman in Alpha Zeta: Joy Straney

Outstanding Senior in Agribusiness: Samantha Anderson & Nathan Shearer

Outstanding Agricultural Education Student Teacher: Dustin Gosser & Cassie Hendon

Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Systems Technology: Jamey Guinn & Joseph Kelly

Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Science: Audie Cherry

Outstanding Senior in Agronomy: Brian Jarvis

Outstanding Senior in Veterinary Technology: Emily Breitkreitz

Outstanding Senior in Pre-Veterinary Medicine: Kaitlin Knaszak

Outstanding Senior in Animal Science: Grady Cofield

Outstanding Senior in Equine Science: Alyssa Thomas

Outstanding Senior in Horticulture: Derrick Farlee

Go Getter Award: Calyn Colston  Logan Corbett  Gregory Deahl  Kali Duncan
Rosemary DeRigne  Nikki Burns  Dustin Gosser  Jenna Knott
Amber Harcrow  Jackie Reed

Outstanding Agribusiness Club Member: Hanna Oliver

Outstanding Agronomy Club Member: Ryan Brauser & Kent Jourdan

Outstanding Sigma Alpha Members: Alexandra Price  Samantha Anderson- Senior
Gayle Hemker- Phi Class  Kaitlyn Bartlett - Upsilon Class

Outstanding Block & Bridle Member: Matthew Papineau & Debra Jenkins

Outstanding AHT/Pre-Vet Club Member: Brandi Stahl

Outstanding Alpha Gamma Rho Member: Ethan Boley & JohnMichael Puckett

Outstanding Horticulture Club Member: Heather Braun

Outstanding Agricultural Engineering Technology Club Member: Eli Sample

Outstanding Agriculture Ambassador: Claire Crocker & Mindy Hopson

Outstanding Stock Seat Equestrian Team Member: Morgan Parishek

Outstanding Hunt Seat Equestrian Team Member: Beth Jones

Outstanding Dressage Club Member: Lauren Hamm

Outstanding Horsemans Club Member: Elizabeth Thrall

Outstanding Cowboy & Cowgirl: Aaron Popham & Kristy Maxwell

Outstanding FFA Member: Debra Jenkins & Kimberlie Moore

Outstanding Collegiate 4-H Member: Debra Jenkins & Kristina Martin
**Graduate Research**

December 2012 and May 2013 Graduate Students participated in research projects as part of their Master’s Degree program requirements.

**December 2012**

- **Hollie Benson** (Carlisle, IN)
  Advisor: Dr. William DeWees, Associate Professor of Animal Health Technology/Pre-Veterinary Medicine
  Thesis: *Parasite Loads of Beef Cattle in a Rotationally Grazed Closed Herd*

- **Carey Grable** (Hopkinsville, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Pat Williams, Associate Professor Horticulture
  Thesis: *A Comparative Analysis of Root Trappe in Pot Inserts Ability to Control Root Escape and Circling for Pot in Pot Production*

- **Andrew McCubbins** (Dry Ridge, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  **Research:** *Evaluating Switchgrass as a Potential Source for Ethanol Fuel*

- **Becky Mosbacher Ballard** (Brookport, IL)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  Thesis: *Selected Demographics of Murray State University Huston School of Agriculture Graduates From December 2005-December 2012*

- **Trent Murdock** (Murray, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  **Research:** *Non-Academic Assessment of the Murray State University “Bill” Cherry Expo Center Relative to Student Engagement*

**May 2013**

- **Jesse Hunt** (Kevil, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  **Research:** *Conservation Tillage and Conventional Tillage: Two Methods of Different Farming Practices Used in Production of Corn, Wheat, and Soybeans*

- **Megan Jamerson** (Brighton, TN)
  Advisor: Dr. Jim Davis, Professor Animal Science
  **Research:** *The Use of Social Networks to Promote Kentucky Wineries*
May 2013 continued

- Suhad Kawar (Paris, TN)
  Advisor: Dr. Iin Handayani, Associate Professor Agronomy
  Research: Evaluating Soil Properties as Early Indicators of Soil Quality Change in response to Cover Crops at Land Between the Lakes National recreation Area

- Brittany Turner (Hartford, KY)
  Advisor: Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean
  Research: The Implementation of a Safety Certification Program at Murray State University’s Hutson School of Agriculture
Eleven Hutson School of Agriculture students prepared posters for Posters at the Capitol held on February 21, 2013 in Frankfort, KY. Participating students had the opportunity to present their work during a session of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

- **Trials With a New Experimental Herbicide, Rimsulfuron, for Dark-Fired Tobacco**
  JohnMichael Puckett (Murray, KY), Charlton Story (Puryear, TN), and Kalie Vowell (Water Valley, KY)
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Ferguson

- **Evaluation of Dark Fired and Burley Tobacco Varieties**
  Barrett Ranes (KY), and Joseph Kelly (Murray, KY)
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. C. Gustav Helmers

- **Evaluation of Potassium Response in Dark Tobacco**
  Brian Jarvis (Benton, KY) and Kathleen Paschall (Puryear, TN)
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. Iin Handayani
The Breathitt Veterinary Center (BVC), located almost 60 miles away from main campus in Hopkinsville, KY is an important unit of the Hutson School of Agriculture. Fully accredited (AAVLD) in all animal species, the BVC is a critical segment of animal agriculture in Western Kentucky as well as companion animal medicine. Veterinarians and clients alike depend on the timely results and diagnoses received from the BVC in caring for livestock, poultry, equine and pets. The BVC works hand in hand with the MSU Animal Health Technology staff to educate AHT and pre-veterinary students in laboratory procedures as well as lecturing to these students on veterinary medicine subjects. The BVC has a terrific outreach program targeting high school agriculture and biology students who visit the facility for extensive tours. Additionally, the BVC has hosted and mentored two veterinary students and two veterinarians, as well as several pre-veterinary students in the past year.

2012-2013 Caseload:
- Over 22,000 cases for diagnostic, regulatory or disease surveillance were processed
- Almost 200,000 individual tests were performed on samples covering more than 13 species of animals, both domestic and wildlife

Laboratory Improvements:
- New Serology test protocols to improve diagnostics
- New Toxicology and Clinical Chemistry equipment to expand test capabilities and capacity
- New microscopes and video equipment in Histopathology to facilitate teaching and collaboration with other laboratories
- Information Technology upgrades to improve transfer of data, increase accuracy, and enhance web access to case reports
- Continuing improvements in ventilation and cooling equipment to become more energy efficient

Operations:
- The Breathitt Veterinary Center participated in the campus wide Budget Planning and Review Process (BPR). Each laboratory section was charged with examining each test activity and examining Essentiality, Demand, Quality, Cost Effectiveness and Opportunity. Following this activity, test selections were adjusted to reflect increased efficiency and quality, testing schedules were adjusted to increase cost effectiveness, and a marketing program for out of state clinics was launched.
- The Breathitt Veterinary Center remains committed to providing timely, quality service to veterinarians. Respondents to the 2013 Customer Satisfaction Survey scored the BVC above a 90% rating in all 13 survey categories. The BVC welcomes suggestions on how best to serve Kentucky’s veterinarians and livestock industries.

Breathitt Veterinary Center Project:
- Progress continues on the BVC Capital Construction Project. The Design and Site Acquisition Phases are underway and the project should be well positioned in the 2014 legislative session for construction bonding. A new, state-of-the-art laboratory facility is a few steps closer to reality for Kentucky veterinarians and producers.
Wm. Bill Cherry Expo Center

Completed in 1976 and dedicated on May 21, 1977, the Western Kentucky Livestock Show and Exposition Center was built in response to requests by the Western Kentucky Horseman’s Association, Purebred Livestock Associations and various friends of Murray and Western Kentucky. The facility was renamed in honor of its first director, William “Bill” Cherry, in 2006. The Cherry Expo Center complex is made up of a multi-purpose event facility that consists of a 23,000 square-foot dirt floor arena with graduated seating for 2,714; an 8,647 square-foot staging area with a 6 stall wash rack; a 100 seat classroom; 20 station RV electrical hookup area; and dedicated detached 40 stall barn. Since the initial dedication, over 500,000 individuals have attended a wide array of events.

**Selected 2012-2013 Expo Events**

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

**Bull Blowout:**
- 2 night bull riding and barrel racing event held in October and February
- Participants: 150 per night
- Spectators: 1,500 per night

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

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

**Mid-America Arenacross Series 4 & 5**
- 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 Construction and Safety Days**

**Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro Adoption**

**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 14, 2012. 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 2012 growing season included variety trials, potassium application 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 28, 2012 at the West Farm Complex. Over 325 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 200+ incoming freshmen to the Hutson School of Agriculture family.

**Racer Roundup**

Murray State University’s Collegiate FFA hosted its 18th annual Racer Roundup Leadership event on September 14, 2012 in the MSU CFSB Center. Special guests in attendance included Mr. Seth Pratt, 2012-2013 National FFA Officer. The event hosted over 800 high school FFA members ranging from freshmen to seniors. The theme for this year’s event was Through the Ages.
The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Ag Leadership Council hosted the ninth annual “Fall on the Farm” September 19-22, 2012. Over 1,200 area elementary and pre-school students and more than 1,400 members of the community attended this event. Students and teachers from Benton Elementary, Jonathan Elementary, South Marshall Elementary, Southwest Calloway Elementary, Murray Elementary, Eastwood Christian Academy, Farmington Elementary, East Calloway Elementary, Murray Head Start, Henry County Pre-School 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, Hutson Inc., and Hutson School of Agriculture students. 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.
“Back to the Farm” Alumni Picnic

The 50th annual Agriculture Alumni Association Picnic was held in conjunction with MSU Homecoming activities on October 12, 2012. Special recognition was given to graduates from the classes of 1962 and 1987 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. Dr. Buddy Ray was presented the Outstanding Agriculture Alumnus during a special Dean’s Circle luncheon. Mr. Roy Justin Taylor and Ms. Ashlee Vinyard were named the 2012-2013 Outstanding Young Agriculture Alumni.

Hutson School of Agriculture students Audie Cherry (Clay, KY), Charles Michael Dobbs (Winchester, KY), Logan Karcher (Dahlgren, IL) and Amber Phillips (Hardinsburg, KY) were presented with Alumni Association Scholarships during the event as well.

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 650 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 $1300 in cash donations were delivered by Agribusiness and Agriculture Systems Technology Club members on December 14, 2012.
Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon

The annual “Excellence in Agriculture” luncheon was held January 22, 2013. This marked the eighth 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.

Dr. Tim Todd, Dean of the Murray State University’s Bauernfeind College of Business served as keynote speaker for this year’s event.

Soybean Promotion Day

The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board sponsored the ninth annual Soybean Promotion Day on January 22, 2013 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.

Ms. Missy Bauer, independent crop consultant with B&M Consulting in Coldwater, MI opened the program with discussion relating to new developments in production practices in her presentation entitled “Understanding the Yield Components of Soybeans.

Mr. Moe Russell, cofounder and president of Russell Consulting Group served as keynote speaker for the evening. Russell gave attendees an inside look at the importance of marketing and market trends in today’s agricultural society.
The Hutson School of Agriculture and the Agriculture Leadership Council hosted the Agriculture Career Fair on February 6, 2013. Over thirty companies were represented this year at the career fair, and approximately 300 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 3, 2013. Approximately 375 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 2012-2013 academic year.

Mr. Brian Jarvis and Mr. Grady Cofield were presented with the 2012-2013 Senior Man in Agriculture award. Ms. Amber Phillips was presented with the 2012-2013 Senior Woman in Agriculture award.
FFA Field Day

The 61st annual Murray State University FFA Field Day was held April 17, 2013 at the Wm. “Bill” Cherry Expo Center. Over 1,200 students representing 49 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, small engines, goat tying, roping, auctioneering and horsemanship. Calloway County High School finished first in overall competition for the eighth consecutive year.

Institute for Future Agriculture Leaders

The Hutson School of Agriculture hosted the Institute for Future Agricultural Leaders (IFAL) June 16-20, 2013. IFAL is a five day leadership conference for high school seniors sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau. Forty-five students from across the state attended this year’s IFAL, where they participated in team building and leadership development exercises. Participants traveled to Hopkinsville, KY to tour Breathitt Veterinary Center and Commonwealth Agri-Energy and also participated in a panel discussion focused on integrated agriculture. In addition, the group participated in a Congressional Insight game, hosted by Mr. Bryan Alvey (KFB) and designed to give students a behind the scenes look at the legislative selection process. Students also worked together to prepare for a Discussion Meet modeled after the annual KFB contest. Other activities included a photo scavenger hunt highlighting MSU campus landmarks, Barnyard Olympics, a special presentation by Missy Jenkins-Smith, victim of the 1997 Heath High School shooting, and an opportunity to meet with Hutson School of Agriculture faculty, staff, and MSU Office of Recruitment personnel to get a firsthand account of college life at Murray State.
RACER ACADEMY

2012-2013 Academic Year Enrollment Report

Participating Schools
- Bullitt (8 students enrolled)
- Butler County (1 student enrolled)
- Caldwell County (10 students enrolled)
- Calloway County (7 students enrolled)
- Campbell County (2 students enrolled)
- Carlisle County (6 students enrolled)
- Crittenden County (4 students enrolled)
- Franklin County (6 students enrolled)
- Fulton County (10 students enrolled)
- George Rogers Clark (2 students enrolled)
- Graves County (7 students enrolled)
- Green County (1 student enrolled)
- Hickman County (14 students enrolled)
- Home Schooled (2 students enrolled)
- LaRue County (8 students enrolled)
- Lone Oak (28 students enrolled)
- Lyon County (3 students enrolled)
- Muhlenberg County (6 students enrolled)
- Ohio County (4 students enrolled)
- Owen County (3 students enrolled)
- Spencer County (13 students enrolled)
- Taylor County (1 student enrolled)
- Walton-Verona (10 students enrolled)
- Webster County (4 students enrolled)
- Western Hills (1 student enrolled)
One characteristic of a Murray State graduate is to have some understanding of cultural diversity and alternative economic and political systems. On May 13-19 Hutson School of Agriculture students participated in an agribusiness tour of Scotland. The trip was the culmination of an international study course taken by 35 undergraduate and graduate students during the spring semester. Students visited various agricultural production and processing units to interact with owners and managers. Examples include the Culfoich Highland Cattle Farm and Sandystones Farm, where farm products are sold from a farm store. As part of the cultural activities, students spent one night with a local Scottish family and enjoyed authentic Scottish cuisine. Various castles and historically significant aspects of Scotland were also included in the tour. However, the Loch Ness monster was not observed.

A unique aspect of the study tour was the opportunity to interact with students at an elementary school in Glasgow. MSU students shared photographs of family and agricultural practices in the US with participating classes. MSU faculty members leading the tour were as follows: Dr. Bill Payne, Agribusiness Economics; Mr. Brandon Wilson, Agricultural Education; Dr. Dwayne Driskill, Assistant Dean and wife Tina; Mr. O.L. Robertson, Animal Science; Dr. Jo Robertson, Elementary Education; Mrs. Judy Payne, Career and Technical Education.
### Special Events 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28/2012</td>
<td>School of Agriculture Picnic (Retention)</td>
<td>328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/14/2012</td>
<td>Racer Roundup</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/14/2012</td>
<td>Purchase Area Soil Judging Contest</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18-22/2012</td>
<td>Fall on the Farm (ALC Project)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18/2012</td>
<td>Regional College Fair</td>
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<td>9/22/2012</td>
<td>Racer Day I</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/26/2012</td>
<td>Majors Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/27/2012</td>
<td>Murray-Calloway County Leadership Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/12/2012</td>
<td>Homecoming Cookout</td>
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<td>10/11/2012</td>
<td>Mayfield/Graves County Student Leadership Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/24-26/2012</td>
<td>National FFA Convention (3 days)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/8/2012</td>
<td>Racer Day II</td>
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<td>11/15/2012</td>
<td>FFA State CDE</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/20/2012</td>
<td>Agriculture Sales Contest</td>
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<td>11/20/2012</td>
<td>Region I FFA Welding Contest</td>
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<td>12/4/2012</td>
<td>Racer Academy Night</td>
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<td>1/22/2013</td>
<td>Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon</td>
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<td>1/22/2013</td>
<td>Soybean Promotion Day</td>
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<td>West Tennessee Speaking Contest</td>
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<td>2/6/2013</td>
<td>Ag Day 2012 (Career Fair)</td>
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<td>Presidential Scholars Interview Day</td>
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<td>2/12-16/2013</td>
<td>National Farm Machinery Show (4 days)</td>
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<td>3/7/2013</td>
<td>Purchase FFA Speaking Day (9 Schools)</td>
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<td>3/11/2013</td>
<td>Pennyrile FFA Speaking Day (12 Schools)</td>
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<td>3/27/2013</td>
<td>Racer Day III</td>
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<td>3/29/2013</td>
<td>FFA Regional/State Officer Training</td>
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<td>4/3/2013</td>
<td>Alpha Zeta Agriculture Awards Banquet</td>
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<td>4/17/2013</td>
<td>FFA Field Day (49 Schools - IL, KY, TN)</td>
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<td>4/19/2013</td>
<td>Honors Orientation</td>
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<td>Summer Orientation I</td>
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<td>Calloway County Senior Interview Day</td>
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<td>6/8/2013</td>
<td>Summer Orientation II</td>
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<td>6/11-12/2013</td>
<td>KY State FFA Convention Career Show</td>
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<td>6/16-20/2013</td>
<td>IFAL (Institute for Future Agriculture Leaders)</td>
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<td>6/18/2013</td>
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<td>Western Rivers Livestock Clinic</td>
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**Total:** 7729
### High School & Community College Visits

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<td>Fulton County High School</td>
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<td>12/5/2012</td>
<td>Marshall County High School</td>
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<td>Hickman County High School</td>
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Total 696

### FFA Banquets Attended

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<td>Webster County High School</td>
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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 11-12 12-13

Degrees Conferred

138 149 142 163 156 141 150 139 174 171

Year