

The Economic Elevator

Hog Wild Pigposium

The next “pig” thing for weed management

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Welcome 2017 AEAB Grad Students

Today's future.

Doctorate Dialogue

1-on-1 with Assistant Professor Dr. Di Fang.

AEAB Awards Across the Board

*Beitia, Hansen, Harris, Lane, Lindsay, Taylor,
and Tester all receive recognition.*



Thanks For the Invite!
If I can answer any questions about
what we are doing on our farm or
help you try and adapt it to yours
please give me a call or send an
email

• Adam Chappell
• Chappell.adam@gmail.com
• 870-219-6228



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Dale Bumpers College
of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System



05

Hog Wild Pigposium

The next “pig” thing for weed management.

BY MARY HIGHTOWER

Contributors | 1

From the Department Chair | 2

Upcoming Events | 2

2017 AEAB Grad Students | 3

Hog Wild Pigposium | 5

AEAB Wins Big at Quiz Bowl | 7

Dr. Nalley Wins SAEA Award | 8

A. Beitia Wins Best Poster | 10

2017-18 Honors Student Board | 10

K. Lindsay Defends Thesis | 11

2017 Student Alumni Board | 12

Doctorate Dialogue | 14

Congrats Diana Danforth | 15

S. Harris, Truman Scholar | 16

The Backpage | 17

Editor-in-chief: Ryan Ruiz

Layout and design: Ryan Ruiz

Cover photograph: Mary Hightower

Contributor: Mary Hightower

Contributor: Angela Mosley Monts

Contributor: Ryan Ruiz

Contributor: Steve Voorhies

AEAB department chair: Steve Halbrook

10

Dr. Nalley Wins SAEA Teaching Award



Dr. Nalley is awarded for his teaching of the upper-level course AGE 4163, Agriculture and Rural Development.

From the AEAB Department Chair

The spring semester is well underway, and our recent upward trend in enrollment continues. Our department is currently home to approximately 300 undergraduate and 35 graduate students. During the 2016 academic year, our department granted 85 degrees, including 26 M.S. degrees.

We have experienced several changes in the interim. Diana Danforth retired March 1 after 42 years of tremendous service. We are eternally grateful for everything she has done for us throughout the years. Her imprint is on much of the research from this department for more than a generation. She salvaged countless graduate student projects and theses. She counseled scores of students to develop their potential. We will miss her smile in the hallway, but we know she will find fulfillment in retirement and will visit us now and then.

Heather Price joined our research support unit in December. Heather has a Ph.D. in mathematics and came to us from the math department, where she was an instructor. Heather is already involved in several research projects.

Additionally, we have brought Ryan Ruiz on as Communications Manager. Ryan will be responsible for leading our department's outreach endeavors. We look forward to seeing our department's research and news reaching new, expanded audiences. In his first few weeks, he has edited numerous journal articles, taken over web page content, and revived this newsletter.

Our faculty and students have been busy, and many have received awards and acknowledgments. We encourage you to explore this newsletter to discover more about our programs, students, faculty, research, and service.

Dr. Steve Halbrook



Steve Halbrook
AEAB Department Chair


Upcoming Events

- **OFPA Convention & Expo**
Date: 4/11-12
Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Location: Springdale, AR
- **Lunch for Luck**
Date: 4/14
Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Location: Agri Park
- **Livestock & Forage Field Day**
Date: 4/18
Time: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Location: Batesville, AR
- **Ambassador Training Day 1**
Date: 4/21
Time: 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Location: HOEC Commons
- **Ambassador Training Day 2**
Date: 4/22
Time: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Location: HOEC Commons
- **Ready Razorback**
Date: 4/29
Time: 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Location: Silas Hall, Uark Campus
- **Arkansas Rice Expo**
Date: 8/4
Time: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Location: Stuttgart, AR

2017 AEAB Graduate Students



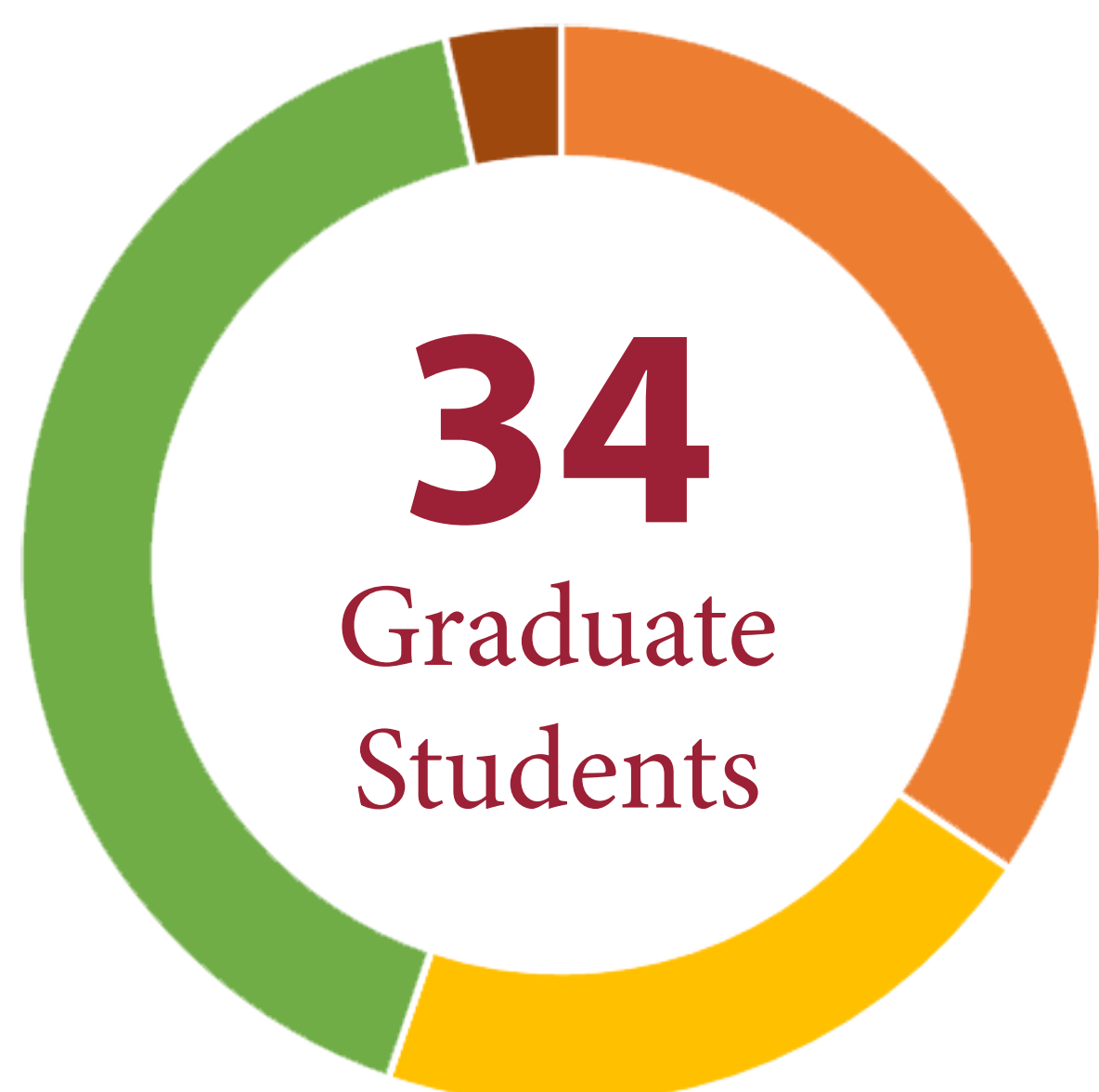
The Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department of the University of Arkansas would like to extend a special welcome to our 2017 Graduate Students. We are fortunate to be graced with such a unique and diverse array of talents and backgrounds. We look forward to watching you all develop professionally during your time with us and eagerly anticipate the endeavors which you will undertake as you make your entry into your respective industries.



Demographics

7
Different
U.S. States

13
Total Countries
Represented



35%
AGECE



21%
ATLS



41%
AGEBS



3%
INAB





HOG- WILD PIG- POSIUM

Pigposium is the annual event hosted by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture which focuses on the latest technologies and strategies to assist farmers in combating the scourge of pigweed.

In just over a decade, glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth, better known as pigweed, has spread across over 30 states and poses a significant threat to crop yields.

University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture weed scientist Bob Scott and agricultural economist Dr. Michael Popp discuss methods for proactive weed management and empowering producers.

BY MARY HIGHTOWER



Dr. Michael Popp, agricultural economist for the U of A System Division of Agriculture, discusses PAM, a computer-based Palmer Amaranth Management tool. (Photo by Mary Hightower)

At Pigposium 3, weed scientists urge growers to get off the “resistance treadmill.”

Finding ways to halt the “resistance treadmill” was a key message from weed scientists on Tuesday, February 28 at Pigposium III, a daylong event hosted by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture focused on herbicide-resistant Palmer amaranth.

About 300 people from the agriculture industry, including farmers, extension agents, and consultants, heard weed scientists from four states describe research and strategies for managing weeds that have developed resistance to the most-used herbicides.

Jason Norsworthy, weed scientist with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, opened with a situation report, noting that it’s been 12 years since the existence of glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth, better known as pigweed, was first confirmed in Georgia.

A year later, in 2006, glyphosate-resistant pigweed was confirmed in Arkansas and Tennessee.

In just over a decade, “31 states now have glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth,” he said. “The world’s greatest herbicide is no longer effective against pigweed.”

In defining what he called the resistance treadmill, “we’re taking one herbicide and replacing it with another, and taking another herbicide and replacing it with another, and taking another herbicide and replacing it with another,” Bob Scott, weed scientist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture said. “Today, the goal is to stop doing this.”

Michael Popp, an agricultural economist with the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, walked the audience through Palmer Amaranth Manager, or PAM, a PC-based program that enables growers to develop their own strategy in managing pigweed. [The software is available from this link.](#)

Norsworthy left his audience with this message: “Do something different next year ... glyphosate was the world’s greatest herbicide. And I said ‘was.’ If we had only done something different in the late 90s and early 2000s, we’d still have the greatest herbicide today.” ■

“We’re taking one herbicide and replacing it with another.”



Tester, Dr. Kemper, and Lane outside of the Agriculture Building following their victories at the Academic Quiz Bowl Competition.

AEAB Wins Big At Academic Quiz Bowl

COLSON TESTER, LUKE LANE, and instructor Dr. Nathan Kemper took home victories at the Academic Quiz Bowl Competition at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting held in Mobile, Alabama.

Tester (left), a junior from Clinton who is specializing in agricultural economics, took first place. Lane (right), a senior from Taylor who is specializing in pre-law, placed third.

(continued on page 8)

AEAB Wins Big at Academic Quiz Bowl

continued from page 7

Tester and Lane, both members of the Honors College who serve as officers of the Agricultural Business Club, competed against 122 students from universities across the nation to achieve this honor and were formally recognized at the awards banquet.

Nathan Kemper serves as the adviser of the Academic Quiz Bowl team and teaches a special topics course that prepares students to compete in Quiz Bowl events. Congratulations to the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Quiz Bowl competitors. ■



SAEA President Jeffrey Gillespie of LSU presents Dr. Lanier Nalley with his award.

Did You Know?

The [Southern Agricultural Economics Association](#) was established with the intent to foster the study and understanding of agricultural economics and its applications to problems in the Southern U.S. Their goal is to promote unity and effectiveness of effort among all who are concerned with these problems and to increase the contribution of agricultural economics to human welfare. Annual meetings are an opportunity to generate discussion around current topics, highlight poignant research, and recognize the movers and shakers in the field. The next SAEA meeting will be held in [Jacksonville, FL from February 3rd - 6th, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.](#) ■

Dr. Nalley Wins SAEA Teaching Award

LANIER NALLEY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR of agricultural economics and agribusiness, teaches the upper-level course AGEC 4163 Agriculture and Rural Development at the University of Arkansas, which covers the interdependencies between the world's food, population, and equitability/poverty problems. Given the increase of globalization in agriculture and the changes in comparative advantages, AGEC 4163 is a keystone course to learning about relationships between

wealthy and poor countries, particularly in terms of policies, trade, and aid.

Students are encouraged to think outside the box and approach problems from alternative points of view. Many of the topics — effects of infectious disease on economic growth, for example — are things most domestic students have a difficult time conceptualizing.

(continued on page 9)

Dr. Nalley Wins SAEA Teaching Award

continued from page 8

That being said, Nalley invites his foreign graduate students, the majority of whom are from low-income countries, to come lecture and give personal accounts and stories about these topics.

Students who take AGECE 4163 come from a variety of different majors and have a set of very distinctive goals. Some students take AGECE 4163 in preparation for the Peace Corps, while others enroll as part of a global studies minor or out of personal interest. His 2016 class in AGECE 4163 had seven different majors enrolled. From these diverse backgrounds, Nalley emphasizes preparing his students to apply the skills specific to economic growth in low-income countries at a variety of different levels — from the micro level, which a Peace Corps volunteer would need, to the macro level, which a World Food Program country supervisor would need. Eight students who have taken

The class has grown in popularity campuswide, flourishing in size from initially having 20 students in 2009 to 74 in 2016.

AGECE 4163 became Peace Corps volunteers and one became World Food Program country supervisor.

Many of the students who take AGECE 4163 use it as a preparatory course to take Nalley’s four-week service-learning program in Northern Mozambique each summer. Over the last three years, nearly one-fourth of all students who participated in the Mozambique service-learning program have taken AGECE 4163.

Nalley has received approval of a university-wide minor in international development, a collaboration between the Department of Economics and the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, with this course as its cornerstone. The minor will be available beginning with the fall 2017 semester. Nalley was sought out to teach this class upon his arrival at the University of Arkansas and enjoys teaching it, which is evident from his high teaching reviews. The class has grown in popularity campuswide, flourishing in size from initially having 20 students in 2009 to 74 in 2016. ■

Did You Know?

The Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department has been well represented at the SAEA award ceremonies in recent years. The last two annual meetings have demonstrated the significant contributions that University of Arkansas’ professors and scholars have been making in the field. Furthermore, the prestigious “Lifetime Achievement Award” has been bestowed upon two Uark affiliates since its origination.

In addition to Dr. Nalley’s “Outstanding Teaching of a Course” award, AEAB M.S. graduate, Francis Tsiboe brought home 2017’s “Outstanding Thesis”

award for his work titled “Cost-Benefit Analysis and Potential Spillover Effects of Farmer Field Schools in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Case of Cocoa.”

Recent SAEA award recipients also include Dr. Jeff Luckstead (2016’s “Emerging Scholar” award) as well as E. Wolf, M. Popp, C. Bazzani, R. Nayga, D. Danforth, J. Popp, P.Chen, and H. Seo for their research titled “Consumers’ Willingness to Pay for Genetically Engineered Edamame,” who received first place for 2016’s “Outstanding Poster” award. ■

Antonio Beitia Wins Best Poster

Antonio Beitia, AEAB Master’s degree student, earns “Best Poster Award” for his work titled “Economic Assessment of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Outbreak in Washington and Benton Counties in Arkansas” at the International Poultry Scientific Forum 2017, January 30-31, 2017, in Atlanta, Georgia. ■



Antonio appears beside his winning poster.

Department Spotlight



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS®

Dale Bumpers College of
Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences

2017-18 Honors Student Board

Three AEAB students have been named to the 2017-18 Bumpers College Honors Student Board:

- Sam Harris, Chair
- Colson Tester, Vice Chair
- Abby Ratton, Dir. of Communications ■



Dr. Michael Popp appears with graduate student Karen Lindsay.

Karen Lindsay Completes Thesis Defense

KAREN LINDSAY, A GRADUATE student in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, successfully defended her thesis titled “Decision Support for Palmer Amaranth Weed Control.”

Under the guidance of her advisor, Dr. Michael Popp, she co-developed a decision-support software program, Palmer Amaranth Management (PAM).

(continued on page 12)

Karen Lindsay Completes Thesis Defense

continued from page 11

This program is designed to highlight the long-term implications of management practices on soil seed banks and economics as a means of promoting the adoption of IPM methods for managing Palmer amaranth among crop producers and educators in the Mid-Southern U.S.

Originally from Houston, Texas, Karen moved to Fayetteville in 1992 and currently considers it her home. She graduated from the University of Arkansas in May of 2014 with a B.S.A. in Agricultural Business Management and Marketing and now hopes to continue working towards a successful career developing decision-support software to address farm, community, and agribusiness problems. ■

AEAB Scholarship Donation

Donations from businesses and alumni are of tremendous benefit to the programs and facilities we provide. Donated funds go directly to the scholarships that we offer our students. All contributions, large and small, allow us to present an opportunity to scholars who have the intellectual but not the financial means. Please consider making a gift to our program today. ■



Arkansas Alumni Association Announces
2017 Student Alumni Board Executive Team

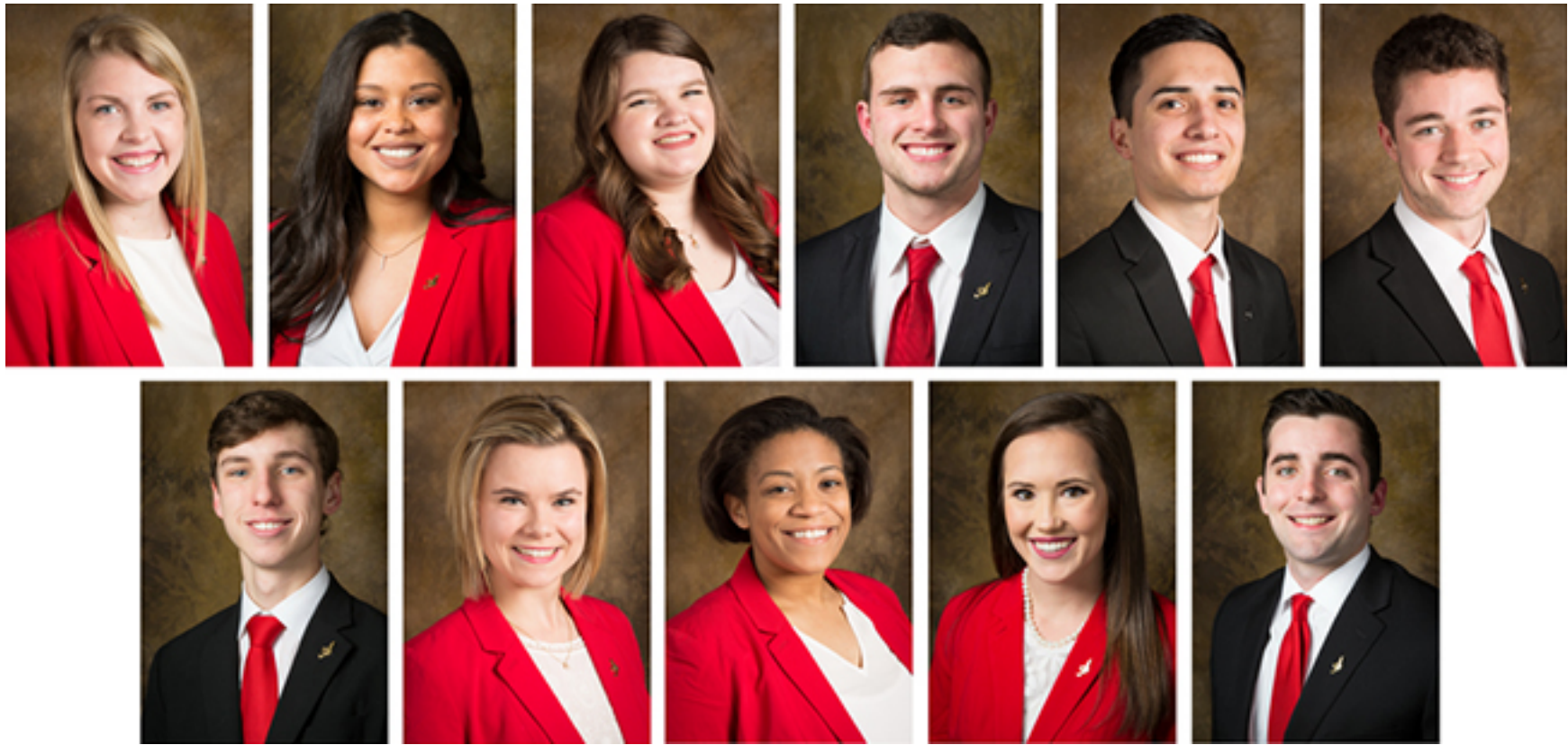
BY ANGELA MOSLEY MONTS

In early February, the Arkansas Alumni Association announced the Student Alumni Board Executive Team for 2017. This board serves as the board of directors for the Student Alumni Association.

The Student Alumni Association is the student membership program established by the Arkansas Alumni Association. Created by students in 2003, the association was designed to inspire loyalty, preserve University of Arkansas traditions, and establish the bond between students and alumni. Originally

called R.E.A.L. Razorbacks, this organization grew out of the Student Alumni Board, established in 1996. The Student Alumni Association is “The Student Chapter of the Arkansas Alumni Association.” Over the last year, the chapter has grown to more than 4,500 members, making it the largest student organization on campus.

The AEAB Department is proud to announce that two AEAB students serve on this prestigious board: Brooke Taylor and Matt Hansen.



The 2017 executive team for the Student Alumni Board.
(Photos by University Relations)

Brooke Taylor

VP of Programming Student Alumni Board

Brooke is a junior from King City, California majoring in Agriculture Business, Agriculture Communications, and Political Science on a Pre-Law track. This past year she served as Assistant Director of Homecoming Volunteers. She serves on campus as Vice President of Sigma Alpha and the Experiential Lab Coordinator within the Bumpers College.



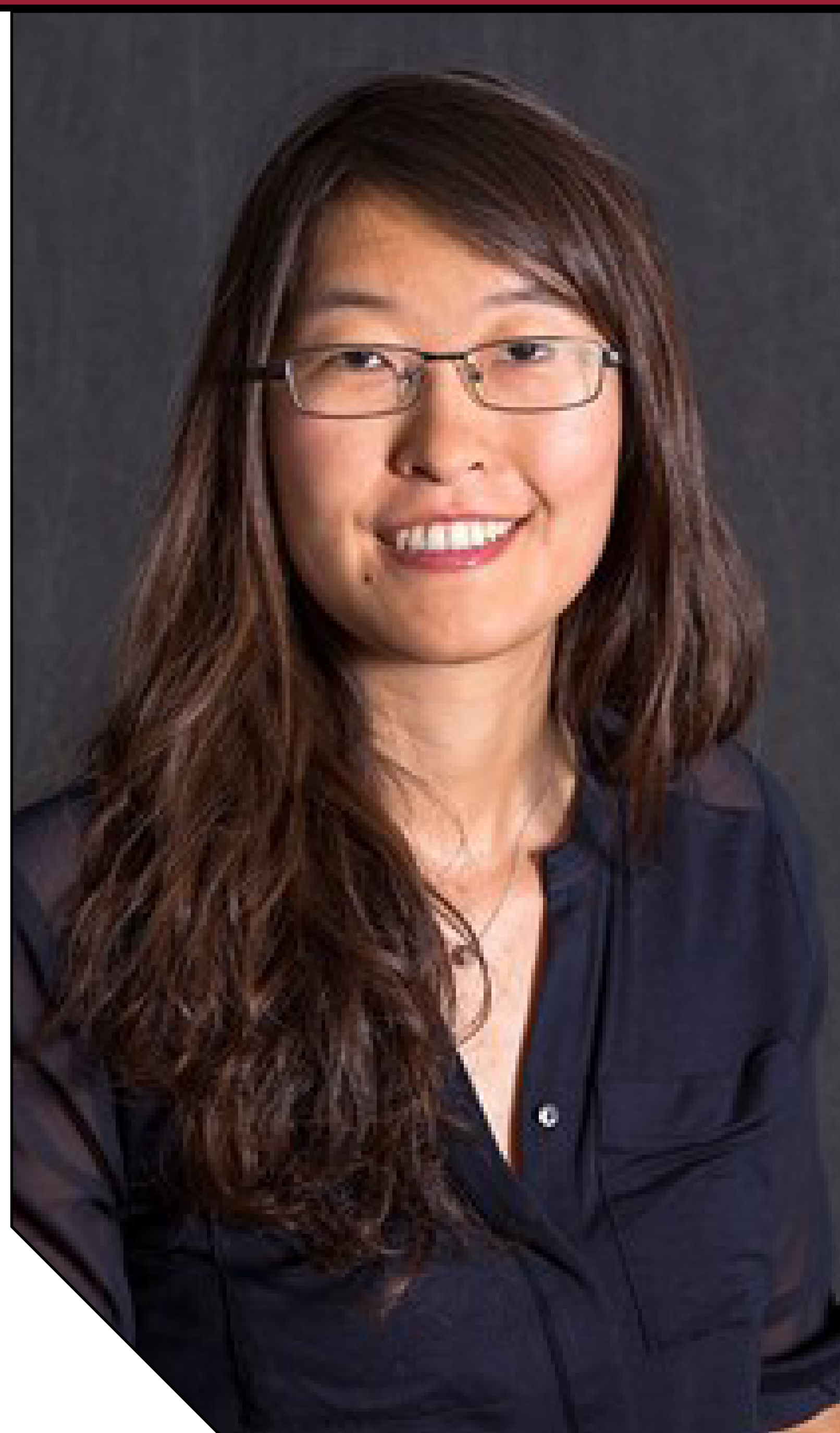
Matt Hansen

VP of Alumni Relations Student Alumni Board

Matt is a junior from Fayetteville majoring in Agricultural Business and Economics. This past year he served as the Official Ring Ceremony co-chair on SAB. He has served as the Vice President of Phi Gamma Delta, Secretary of the Agricultural Business Club, and is a Bumpers College Ambassador. ■

Doctorate Dialogue with Dr. Di Fang

Di Fang, a native of China, received a Ph.D. in Business Administration with a focus on Agribusiness from Arizona State University in 2015. She received her BA in Economics from Nankai University in China in 2009. Fang's research interests include economics modeling, marketing, obesity, public health, and spatial analysis. She has published in the Journal of Agricultural and Resources Economics, Contemporary Economic Policy, American Journal of Public Health, and International Food and Agribusiness Review. She has presented in academic conferences including Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Marketing Science (ISMS), Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA), International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) and Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM).



Ryan Ruiz: How long have been with the AEAB department at the University of Arkansas and what was it that attracted you to working here?

Di Fang: I have been here for a little over a year. What attracts me most about this job is people. I enjoy the uplifting and harmonious working environment. I am grateful to the many mentors in this department who are willing to guide me through an academic career and our students who challenge me on academic truth every day.

RR: How does your Ph.D. in Business Administration contribute to your role in the department?

DF: I think my training as a business student, besides being an Ag economist, teaches me to draw applications from the research world to the real world. *How do we use research to serve our community?* I believe this is also an important mission of an applied department like ours.

RR: Is there any one class that you love teaching?

DF: I enjoy teaching all the classes that have been assigned to me so far. I'd like to hear the students' side of this story, though :).

RR: What is the state of the agribusiness and ag econ

industry as you see it?

DF: When I started out as an agribusiness student, I had a very narrow understanding of this industry. As my knowledge accumulates, I realize agribusiness has everything to do with food, nutrition, and health--rather than the traditional view of agriculture production and farm management. For example, research in our department ranges from production, farm policy analysis, agriculture commodity markets, trade, and environmental issues to health related topics, such as childhood obesity. The above research applies to both domestic issues and international ones. I see the industry as one that presents itself with numerous opportunities for researchers, business people, and future students.

RR: What can current students do to make themselves more attractive candidates and propel their careers in the industry?

DF: I recommend old-fashioned hard work and communication. In other words, work hard and work smart. ■



Congratulations, Diana Danforth!

Diana Danforth began working for the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department in 1975. For 42 years, Diana faithfully served the needs of students, faculty, college, and university alike. However, at the beginning of March, Diana stepped down from her position as Program Associate III to enter retirement.

Diana's dedication to the success of this department is immeasurable. She had a direct impact on countless reports, journal articles, surveys, data sets, and presentations. Truthfully, Arkansas agriculture will never know the full extent of the contributions she has made to its profitability and sustainability over the years. Furthermore, her impact goes beyond the boundaries of the state and extends to the nation and the world. Rice and cotton farmers around the globe will continue to benefit from the research she has made possible.

Diana was a rare combination of hard-working professional and compassionate human being. She demonstrated unparalleled knowledge and skills on a professional level and was jovial and easy to work with on an interpersonal level.

Additionally, Diana has made considerable contribution for women in this department and in the profession. As a mentor for many young women in the midst of developing their personal and professional identities, Diana served as a beacon, demonstrating that anything is possible if you have the attitude, persistence, and dedication that says, "Yes, I can."

Certainly, we hate to see Diana go; however, we are confident that she will find the same success and happiness in retirement that she has experienced during her time here. On behalf of the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department and the University of Arkansas, we thank you, Diana, for all you have done for us these past 42 years. ■

Did You Know?

The Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Department has gone through several changes throughout its history. It was established in 1925 with the original name "Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology." The curriculum expanded during the 1970s and again in the 1980s, adding a course in agricultural law. The program was revamped in the early 1990s to transition primary focus to agricultural business. Reflecting this change, it was renamed in 1996 to the title currently used today. ■

Sam Harris Named 2016 Truman Scholarship Finalist

BY: STEVE VOORHIES

SAM HARRIS, SENIOR HONORS agricultural business pre-law and agricultural communications major in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, was recently named a finalist for the 2016 Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Placing Harris among the top students in the country, Truman Scholars are selected based on a commitment to public service and are awarded \$30,000 in scholarship funds to attend graduate or law schools. The application and interview process is rigorous and often requires more than 50 hours to complete.

“Sam Harris [is an] energetic student and service-minded individual,” said Jim Coleman, provost and executive vice chancellor for academic affairs. “Just reading [his] extensive resume can be exhausting. It is not surprising that the Harry S. Truman Foundation, which is looking for future ‘change agents,’ selected [him] as [a] finalist for this award.”

Harris is a University of Arkansas Honors College Pilot Research Scholar. In 2015, he earned the World Food Prize Foundation’s Elaine Szymoniak Top Research Award for his study on how to improve agricultural practices and minimize food insecurity in remote villages in India. He also received an American FFA Degree for outstanding work with the organization. He also was named a Prudential Spirit of the Community Honoree and was awarded a Presidential Community Service Award. Harris has been involved with the Associated Student Government, the Student Alumni Board, the Bumpers College Honors Student Board, and Young Democrats. This past year, Harris was a Risk Management Agency intern and a Wallace-Carver Fellow for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He has also volunteered on several local, statewide, and national political campaigns.

Harris’ work to alleviate food insecurity has taken him



across the globe. In 2016, Harris traveled to Ho An, Vietnam with a group of U of A students, where he spearheaded the installation of bio-digester systems, an eco-friendly tool that can convert animal waste to fuel for heating and cooking. Encouraged by the initiative, Harris is currently planning a pilot research exchange program in 2017 to implement similar technology in rural communities in Belize. Closer to home, Harris has worked to foster increased political engagement in Washington County. In 2016, he organized the largest voter registration drive in the county’s history. His efforts led to a 20% increase in voter registration from the previous national election.

Upon graduation, Harris intends to study for a Juris Doctor and a Master of Laws, and he ultimately hopes to work toward alleviating food insecurity on a global scale. Following his studies, Harris would like to work in the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Bureau for Food Security, where he hopes “to address the disconnect between cultural sensitivity and the implementation of innovative agricultural technologies.” ■

THE BACKPAGE CONTAINS BLURBS contributed by our audience—including current students, alumni, and others. Letters to the editor are welcome, but they are limited to 200 words. The author’s name will be printed with the letter. Additionally, letters should not contain obscene or libelous language. Submitted letters are printed pending editorial approval.

Submissions should be contributed to the editor-in-chief:

Ryan Ruiz
ryanruiz@uark.edu
218C AGRI BLDG.

The Economic Elevator’s Purpose.
To broadcast University of Arkansas’ AEAB Department news to the community.

Corrections.
The Economic Elevator corrects its mistakes. If you believe the *The Economic Elevator* made a mistake in this or a previous issue, please let us know by contacting the editor-in-chief at ryanruiz@uark.edu

Contact Us.
Facebook: AEAB, Uark
Twitter: UA_AgEcon
Email: ryanruiz@uark.edu
Snail mail: 1 University of Arkansas / Fayetteville, AR 72701 / AGRI BLDG.

RIDDLES

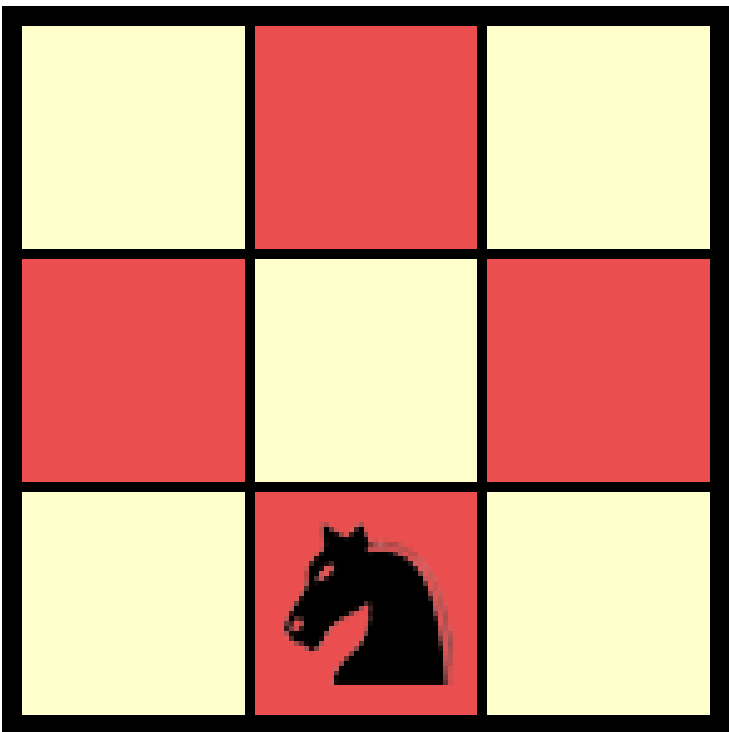
- 1. What goes through a door but never goes in and never comes out?
- 2. I have many teeth and sometimes they’re fine. First I’m by your head, then I’m down your spine. What am I?
- 3. When I take five and add six, I get eleven. However, when I take six and add seven, I get one. What am I?
- 4. I’m a king who’s good at measuring stuff. What am I?
- 5. I’m a seven-letter word containing thousands of letters. What am I?

PUZZLES

- 1. During a recent music festival, four DJs entered the mixing contest. Each wore a number (either 1, 2, 3 or 4) and their decks were different colors.
 - DJ Skinf Lint came first, and only one DJ wore the same number as the position he finished in.
 - DJ Slam Dunk wore number 1.
 - The DJ who wore number 2 had a red deck and DJ Jam Jar didn’t have a yellow deck.
 - The DJ who came last had a blue deck.
 - DJ Park’n Ride beat DJ Slam Dunk.
 - The DJ who wore number 1 had a green deck and the DJ who came second wore number 3.

Can you determine who came where, which number they wore, and the color of their deck?

- 2. How many different squares can this knight visit? Any number of legal knight moves are allowed.



RIDDLE ANSWERS: 1) A keyhole. 2) A clock. 4) A ruler. 5) Mailbox.
PUZZLE ANSWERS: 1) #1 DJ Skinf Lint, 2, red. #2 DJ Park’n Ride, 3, yellow. #3 DJ Slam Dunk, 1, green. #4 DJ Jam Jar, 4, blue. 2) 8 different squares. Including the square it is already on, the knight can visit 8 squares, as it can never land on the center square.

**“Begin at the beginning,” the King said
gravely, “and go on till you come to the end:
then stop.”**



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Dale Bumpers College
of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences