



The SOWER

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

SPRING 2009

College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Alumni Association

Forming a Student Organization Based on International Agriculture

Students Involved in Global Agriculture and Natural Resources Beyond Borders, or more commonly referred to as Beyond Borders, is a new organization within the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The club was formed by Nora Spath, a sophomore in agricultural education, and Azureen Erdman, a junior in animal science, in the fall of 2008 for students with an interest in international studies. The club is advised by Arlen Etling of the CASNR Dean's office.

"We wanted to form a club for those interested in International Studies in agriculture," said Erdman, Beyond Borders president. "The goal of Beyond Borders is to increase awareness of international cultures, introduce the idea of study abroad to students and help those students reach their study abroad goals."

Although membership is currently small, the club is very active. Beyond Borders is working to make it stand out from



Mai Takahashi (lower right) presents her "semester at sea" when she visited 10 countries and took courses on board a ship as it moved from port to port around the world. Other students pictured here at the December Beyond Borders kickoff and holiday party were (left to right) Jessica Edgar, Nora Spath and Azureen Erdman (partially obscured).

Global Ag

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Updating Information Reaps Benefits for Alumni

Paul Horton, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Alumni development director, wants to remind alumni to update their contact information through the CASNR Web site.

"It's becoming more and more critical that we have e-mail addresses with the contact information so we can keep alumni informed and get them information quicker," says Horton. "We use the e-mail addresses to send out notices about football reunion tickets that are on a first come, first serve basis, to deliver the Sower Online news briefs and for distributing other alumni announcements."

The following three easy steps can be taken to update information:

1. Visit the CASNR Website at <http://casnr.unl.edu/>.
2. Click on "CASNR Alumni Association" at the bottom, left-hand side of the page.
3. Click on "Address Update Form" to submit updated contact information.

The updated information also can benefit individuals interested in knowing about awards presented by the Alumni Association. This year CASNR will recognize two distinguished alumni for their contributions to the college and Nebraska agriculture during the April 19 CASNR Week Recognition Banquet. These two outstanding alumni will receive either the CASNR Alumni

Association Achievement Award or the CASNR Alumni Association Service Award. A graduate will be awarded the Henry Beachell Distinguished Alumni Award in the fall at the 2009 Football Reunion.

"The benefit of keeping informed of alumni association happenings is worth the time to update contact information," Horton said. "It's very simple and will only take a minute."

—Lindsey Horner





Your College is a Great Choice: Let it be Known

Many of you know I follow Husker football and recruiting efforts. I commend our Athletic Department for the work they do in making our football team the best in the nation. But from another University recruiting standpoint, did you know the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) led the University for Spring enrollment with a 14.9 percent increase compared to the 2008 spring semester? This growth is 37 percent of the total for all campus undergraduate growth system-wide. For this I say "thank you and congratulations" to our CASNR faculty and staff and to many of our alumni for leading the University two years in a row when it comes to recruiting students for our college! The countless hours, enthusiasm and true engagement by our faculty to make recruiting a priority and a success should not go overlooked. To Dean Waller and staff – job well done!

As a University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension 4-H Youth Educator and Extension Unit Leader in Buffalo County, I have a unique perspective on recruiting. "4-H" as you should know, is your first class and Extension is the front door for the University of Nebraska across the state. As part of Extension's commitment, it's a priority for us to let families and prospective students in Nebraska know the value of an education they can receive from their land grant university.

For the past 12 years I have worked with the Admissions Office and the CASNR Dean's Office to coordinate Junior Days for more than 805 area high school juniors. The success of these events has helped to enroll approximately 30 percent of those students, or 243 incoming freshman, into the University.

In addition, I work with local



Brian K. Bosshamer

the University and CASNR.

This past fall Dean Waller and the College recognized the faculty and staff in the Buffalo County and Cumming County offices for their outstanding efforts in student recruitment. Just like Big Red, recruiting for CASNR is a passion of mine and I, along with many of my colleagues in Extension, take pride in our team and our efforts.

Each of us as a CASNR alumnus knows colleagues, friends, family members and others who have children making college choices. Early data for the fall 2009 class does suggest some challenges. Even though it is still early, the numbers reinforce the importance of continually staying in contact with prospective students and their families. It takes little effort for you to talk about the faculty, programs of study, facilities and experiences that make CASNR one of the best choices young people can make for their future. If each of us talked to at least one young person about making the CASNR choice, think about the positive impact we could all have on the college and Nebraska's agriculture sector!

If you have questions about how to help recruit, please contact me or the Dean's office for more information. Together we can "toot our own horn" to the continued success of CASNR, our students and our future!

—*Brian K. Bosshamer, President*

guidance counselors to provide them with updated information to share with their students. These efforts have paid big dividends for

Your CASNR Alumni Association

The CASNR alumni board of directors encompass a wide range of degree programs and professions in agriculture, natural resources and beyond. Remember that if you have comments, suggestions or ideas for your CASNRAA or its publication, call the CASNR Dean's Office at 1-800-742-8800, ext. 2541.

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The Sower is produced by students in the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, a CASNR club.

Paige Bek, *Coordinator*

Assistant Professor Jason Ellis, *Adviser*



Study Abroad Sparks Lifelong Global Interest

Her dream didn't include working internationally. She didn't see herself going overseas. But, that all changed after Anneke Gustafson finished her first year at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

After completing her freshman year in 2001, Gustafson spent two weeks on a study abroad trip to France, changing her life forever.

"I just loved being overseas after my first experience and it has grown from there," Gustafson said.

During Gustafson's sophomore year she again traveled overseas, spending three weeks in Denmark. Both trips were coordinated through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and focused on agricultural industries.

"Every trip was another step in opening my eyes to the world," she said. "The trips showed me the world isn't that much different from one place to another."



Gustafson

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Study Abroad: The Beginning of a Career

Near or far, agriculture is found all around the world. Sherry Frey of the Perishables Group in Chicago, believes international experience is an important way to broaden one's horizons and scope of experience. Frey, a 1998 College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources graduate, works internationally with large and small scale perishables suppliers to drive sales from category management to new product development.

Frey went on a two-week agribusiness tour of France in May 1996, which fostered her interest in international markets. She returned to France to work as an intern for the Emile Voarick vineyards in the Burgundy region for the remainder of the summer.

"In 1998 I interned in Vienna, Austria, with the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service as a market specialist," Frey said. "I enjoyed this opportunity to help facilitate trade between the United States and



Frey

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Traveling Abroad Expands Horizons

Imagine standing under palm trees and looking up to see a glacier above the tops of the trees. That is the exact scene that Tom Hoegemeyer, a part-time professor of practice and University of Nebraska–Lincoln Department of Agronomy graduate, experienced while traveling in Chile.

Hoegemeyer is a corn breeder by trade who has spent time in countries all over the world meeting people, encountering new cultures and seeing different agricultural systems while sharing his knowledge about corn.

He has traveled to 11 countries while working with his family's seed company and as a consultant for Syngenta. While in these countries, Hoegemeyer saw some different but viable and workable agricultural cropping systems. He learned about the many ways that



Hoegemeyer

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**College of Agricultural Sciences and
Natural Resources Alumni Association
University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Constituent Contribution Form**

Name _____

Spouse's name _____
(if applicable)

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

CASNR Class _____ Major _____

Spouse Class _____ Major _____

Type of Constituent New Renewal

\$20 Annual individual

\$25 Annual couple

Sustaining (more than basic fee)

Amount: _____

Life Affiliation

\$300 Individual

\$360 Couple

\$65/year for 5 years–Individual installment

\$75/year for 5 years–Couple installment

\$180 Senior Individual (65 years or more)

\$220 Senior Couple

Corporate Partnership

\$1,000 Legacy

\$500 Traditions

\$250 Preservation

(For benefits of each level, send e-mail to
phorton2@unl.edu)

Affiliation is open to alumni and friends of
the college.

Payment

Please make your check payable to “NU
Foundation” and send this form to:

CASNRAA

P.O. Box 830702

103 Ag Hall

LINCOLN NE 68583-0702

Alumni Can Renew Online

Make an annual contribution, change affiliate status or make a contribution in the name of another with the Association online and pay by credit card. If you prefer this method, go to <http://casnr.unl.edu> and select “Alumni, Friends, Donors, Extension” for options to either pay by check or pay by credit card. The annual contribution is only \$20.

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other clubs within CASNR by keeping its members active and by organizing monthly activities. Monthly club meetings include various business items and a speaker who presents different study abroad opportunities offered by CASNR. The club also has social activities that are fun learning opportunities, such as members sharing photo albums from past trips and vacations.

Because Beyond Borders is a club that advocates international studies and encourages study abroad trips, the members work to raise money for the trips it supports. A majority of the money raised goes directly toward student funds, which work like scholarships where the money can be used for study abroad. This is one way to make studying abroad more affordable for the members. The club is seeking other fundraising endeavors to give more of the members the opportunity to experience international agriculture through study abroad.

—*Samone Behrendt*

Frey

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Central Europe.”

After graduation, Frey worked for five years with a Fleishman–Hillard agency, focusing on marketing programs for food and agricultural clients. She now works for Perishables Group as the vice president of account services.

“I monitor foreign and domestic markets to determine consumer trends and identify market needs for product entry as part of my job,” said Frey. “As a result, it’s important that I know how different cultures consume food. To be successful in the agribusiness industry, we must pay attention to the activities and what is happening in other countries since we are world consumers.”

Work-related and personal travel have taken Frey to most European countries, Argentina, New Zealand, Vietnam and Cambodia. Frey had positive experiences with international travel and is thankful for those college opportunities that triggered her interest.

—*Paige Bek*

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran’s status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.

Gustafson

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Throughout her years at UNL, Gustafson continued her international experiences by visiting parts of Asia and interning in Belgium and Germany for a full semester.

“Without that exposure (through studying abroad), I wouldn’t have found out that I loved working internationally,” Gustafson said. “It wasn’t really until I graduated with my master’s that I knew I wanted to pursue a career focused on international work.”

Gustafson graduated with her bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics in 2005 and then her master’s degree in 2008 through UNL, and now is working as a research assistant for the Howard G. Buffett Foundation in Decatur, Ill.

“I certainly hope to continue traveling overseas whether it’s through my job or by vacation,” Gustafson said. “I don’t want to stop traveling.”

—*Mallory Wittstruck*

Hoegemeyer

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corn is used around the world.

In central Mexico Hoegemeyer experienced a culture that uses corn as its main food staple. He also had the chance to spend time with the people in these countries and learned how important meal time is for many cultures. Meal time often is a chance to sit down and spend time with family — something that Hoegemeyer feels is forgotten in the United States.

Spending time in different countries allowed Hoegemeyer to make lifelong friends that he continues to keep in touch with today. These friends are an important part of staying connected to the many different countries in which he has traveled.

—*Jessalyn Schrock*

CASNRAA

Web site: <http://casnr.unl.edu/alumni>

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