

# Notable Scholarly Graduate Student Achievements

*Presented by K-State's Graduate Student Council*

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K-State's Graduate Student Council would like to recognize several graduate students who have had notable scholarly achievements throughout the Fall 2010 semester. All recommendations were made by K-State faculty who have worked with the students and feel the student should be recognized. This list is by no means meant to be all-inclusive of the graduate student accomplishments across campus, but hopefully is a representative return from the faculty. The students that have been recommended have been grouped based on the type of achievement and by academic unit. The professor submitting the recognition is noted in parenthesis after each student's name and award.

## Academic Excellence Awardees

Several students were recipients of Outstanding Student awards or Achievement Awards, etc and are listed below for recognition.

### *Economics*

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**Vladimir Bejan** – Graduate Student Teaching Award, departmental (Dr. Dong Li)

**Xiaoyan Laura Chen** – Graduate Student Teaching Award, departmental (Dr. Dong Li)

### *Grain Science and Industry*

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**Liming Cai** – National Starch Outstanding PhD Graduate Student (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Xinyi (Abby) E** – National Starch Outstanding MS Graduate Student (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Khushal Brijwani** – Ming-Long Liao/Paul Seib Graduate Achievement Award (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Yanjie Bai** – Majel M. MacMasters Memorial Achievement PhD Student Award (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Mark Boatwright** – Majel M. MacMasters Memorial Achievement Masters Student Award (Dr. Jon Faubion)

### *Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering*

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**Joshua Cook** – Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant, departmental (Dr. Don Fenton)

**Steve Bellinger** – Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant, departmental (Dr. Don Fenton)

### *Sociology*

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**Travis Linnemann** – NSF Dissertation Research Award, as well as the Doctoral Dissertation Research Award from

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the Rural Sociological Society (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Ryan Button** – Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant of the Year, by the Golden Key International Honor Society (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

## Recognition of Significant Contributions to Knowledge Base

In some cases, a recommendation for recognition was provided by the student's professor purely on the basis of the graduate student's outstanding performance and achievement in their area of research. These students are listed below, with a brief description of their contribution as described by their professor.

### *Civil Engineering*

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**Shahin Nayyeri Amiri** – recognition for his original contributions to the analysis of plastic buckling of hemispherical shells using analytical, numerical and experimental methods (Dr. Hayder Rasheed)

**Ahmed Abd El Fattah** – recognition for his original contributions to the analysis of confined circular and rectangular columns with and without FRP wrapping using numerical methods and software development (Dr. Hayder Rasheed)

### *Kinesiology/Anatomy & Physiology*

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**Steven Copp** – recognition of an outstanding young academic scientist, researcher and student; he has distinguished himself in the laboratory, teaching, awards and international meeting presentations (Dr. David Poole and Dr. Timothy Musch)

**Daniel Hirai** – recognition of an outstanding young academic scientist, researcher and student; he has distinguished himself in the laboratory, teaching, awards and international meeting presentations (Dr. David Poole and Dr. Timothy Musch)

### *Math*

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**Nguyen Si Hoang** – recognition for his outstanding work obtaining and publishing many important results in analysis and its applications (Dr. Alexander Ramm)

### *Physics*

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**Cheng Jin** – recognition of a student whose research has been recognized as some of the best in the field of theoretical atomic, molecular and optical physics; he is already able to work independently at a very high level (Dr. Dean Zollman and Dr. Chii-Dong Lin)

## Fellowship and Grant Awardees

During the Fall 2010 semester significant fellowships or grants were awarded to the following students. A brief description of the award is included (if available).

### *Apparel, Textiles & Interior Design*

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**Cosette Armstrong** – received the Lois Dickey Fellowship for Doctoral Students from the International Textile and Apparel Association (primary professional organization for this discipline); awarded to doctoral students conducting research with evident potential for future contributions to the discipline (Dr. Melody LeHew)

### *Biology*

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**Lindsey Fallis** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

**Susan Rolfsmeier** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

**Erica Cain** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

### *Chemistry*

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**Evan Hurley** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

**Elizabeth Ploetz** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

**Ola Alawode** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

### *Geology*

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**Tyler Hill** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

### *Geography*

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**Rhett Mohler** – awarded a Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant from the Geography and Spatial Science Program in the National Science Foundation (Dr. Melinda Daniels)

### *Grain Science and Industry*

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**Hyma Gajula** – awarded the PhD Brabender Fellowship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Juhyun (Camila) Yoo** – awarded the Anheuser-Busch Company Fellowship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Anne Rigdon** – awarded a 2010-2011 Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Fellowship (IGERT) (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Gabriela Rattin** – awarded the Dr. C.E. Walker International Graduate Student Fellowship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

### *Physics*

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**Jessy Changstrom** – received a NSF GK-12 Fellowship with a sizeable stipend in addition to tuition and health care paid (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

### *Sociology*

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**Ryan Alexander** – awarded a research grant from the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (Dr. Gerard Middendorf)

## Travel Awardees

External travel grants were awarded to several students and are listed below. A brief description of each travel grant is included (where available) as well.

### *Biology*

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**Susan Rolfsmeier** – received an international research travel grant for over \$15,000 from NSF to travel to Russia to collaborate and collect specimens (Dr. Kelly Morgan Deters)

### *Geography*

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**William Butler** – awarded a Student Travel Grant from the Binghamton Geomorphology Symposium organizers to enable him to present a poster at the Symposium at the University of South Carolina on Oct 16-17, 2010 (Dr. Richard Marston)

**Ryan Bergstrom** – awarded a travel grant from the Perth College Centre for Mountain Studies to attend the international conference on Global Change in the World's Mountains in Perth, Scotland on Sept 26-30, 2010 (Dr. Richard Marston)

### *Grain Science and Industry*

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**Yanjie Bai** – awarded the Lola Le Jackson Animal Welfare Foundation Travel Scholarship for oral presentation at 10<sup>th</sup> International Hydrocolloids Conference, Shanghai, China (Dr. Dong Li)

### *Plant Pathology*

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**Ken Obasa** – awarded the Janell Stevens Johnk Student Travel Award, for travel to the national meeting of the American Phytopathological Society (Dr. Megan Kennelly)

**Lorena Gomez-Montano** – awarded the Zahir Eyal Award and the Eugene S. Saari Award for travel to the American Phytopathological Society annual meeting (Dr. Karen Garrett)

## Scholarship Awardees

Those who were awarded notable scholarships in the Fall 2010 semester are listed below, with a brief description of their scholarship (if available).

### *Agricultural Economics*

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**Elizabeth Canales** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Lim Graduate Student Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Brian Lauer** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Greg Regier** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Kristen Schulte** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Lee Schulz** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Jena Silva** – received the Dept of Ag Econ Lim Graduate Student Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Craig Smith** – received the Dept of Agricultural Economics Lim Graduate Student Scholarship, as well as the Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship from the Soil and Water Conservation Society (Dr. John Crespi)

**Elizabeth Yeager** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Emeritus Faculty and Friends Scholarship (Dr. John Crespi)

**Lance Zimmerman** – awarded the Dept of Ag Econ Lim Graduate Student Scholarship, as well as a finalist for the W.D. Farr Scholarship awarded by the National Cattlemen's Foundation (Dr. John Crespi)

#### *Economics*

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**Bebonchu Atems** – awarded the James Ragan Memorial Scholarship; recognizes outstanding academic achievement by a PhD student, departmental (Dr. Dong Li)

**Xiaoyan Laura Chen** – awarded the James Ragan Memorial Scholarship; recognizes outstanding academic achievement by a PhD student, departmental (Dr. Dong Li)

**Zijun Luo** – received the M. Jarvin Emerson Memorial Scholarship; awarded each year within the department to an advanced PhD student who has demonstrated exceptional scholarship and potential for research (Dr. Dong Li)

#### *Grain Science and Industry*

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**Adrian Martinez-Kawas** – received the Rene Buhler Memorial Scholarship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Yanjie Bai** – received the 2010-2011 AACC International Foundation Graduate Scholarship, contributed by Anheuser Busch/Campbell Taggart Graduate Fellowship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Gabriela Rattin** – received the 2010 AACC International Foundation Graduate Scholarship, contributed by Kellogg R&D Graduate Fellowship (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Sherrill Cropper** – received a 2010 Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarship, from the K-State Graduate School (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Yonghui Li** – awarded the 2010 Distillers Grains Scholarship, from the 14<sup>th</sup> Distillers Grains Symposium poster presentation in Indianapolis, Indiana (Dr. Jon Faubion)

#### *Sociology*

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**Sarah Beach** – awarded a Timothy R. Donoghue Graduate Scholarship, from the K-State Graduate School (Dr. Gerard Middendorf)

## Competition Awardees

The graduate students who have received awards at conference poster competitions, oral presentation competitions, research forum presentation competitions, and other similar competitions are listed below with a brief description of their entry/award.

#### *Agricultural Economics*

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**Lee Schulz** – won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the AAEA Extension Section Graduate Case Study Competition, July 25-27 (Dr. John Crespi)

Team of **Shonda Anderson, Sandra Contreras, Yue Zheng** – won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Graduate Team Case Study competition at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2010, Denver (Dr. John Crespi)

Team of **Graciela Andrango, Elizabeth Canales, Jaeljattin Jaen** – won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Graduate Team Case Study competition at the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2010, Denver (Dr. John Crespi)

#### *Agronomy*

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**Sruthi Narayanan** – received Instrumentation award from Decagon Devices, Inc. for proposed use of the Accupar Ceptometer; received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the oral presentation of Graduate Student Competition of 2010 Sorghum Improvement Conference of North America; received 1<sup>st</sup> place in oral presentation of Graduate Student Competition of 2010 International Meetings of Crop Science Society of America, Divisions C2 and C4 (Dr. Rob Aiken)

#### *Architectural Engineering*

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**Kevin Reynolds** – presented a paper at the 20<sup>th</sup> International Specialty Conference on Cold-Formed Steel Structure in St. Louis, MO, Nov 3-4 (Dr. Sutton Stephens)

**Scott Clayton** – presented a paper at the 20<sup>th</sup> International Specialty Conference on Cold-Formed Steel Structure in St. Louis, MO, Nov 3-4 (Dr. Sutton Stephens)

#### *Clinical Sciences*

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**Ruby Mosher** – was runner-up in the American Association of Bovine Practitioners graduate student presentation competition held at their annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM in Aug 2010 (Dr. Hans Coetzee)

#### *Economics*

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**Bebonchu Atems** – received the Best Graduate Paper Award, departmental (Dr. Dong Li)

#### *Electrical and Computer Engineering*

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**Emilio Piesciorovsky** – co-authored a paper which received the ASHRAE Transaction Paper Award, paper delivered the previous summer (Dr. Warren White, MNE)

#### *Food Science*

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**Angela Dodd** – received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Food Product Development Competition, hosted by the American Association of Cereal Chemists (Dr. Jon Faubion)

#### *Geography*

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**K-State Geography Bowl Team** – took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in a competition in the Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division of the Association of American Geographers (graduate student members: Melissa Belz, Will Butler, Jediah Riley, Jim Wells, Steve Walterscheid; undergraduate student member: Benjamin Detrixhe) (Dr. Richard Marston)

#### *Grain Science and Industry*

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**Normell Jhoe deMesa-Stonestreet** – participated in the poster presentation at the IFT annual meeting, Chicago, IL (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Lauren Brewer** – received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual International Starch Convention, poster competition (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Camila Yoo** – received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the graduate assistantship poster competition at the 2009-10 Center for Sustainable Energy (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Khushal Brijwani** – received 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the graduate assistantship poster competition at the 2009-10 Center for Sustainable Energy (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Moses Khamis** – selected to participate in the Capital Graduate Research Summit in Topeka, KS (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Lauren Brewer** – received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the graduate oral presentation competition at the KSU Research Forum, as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the 25<sup>th</sup> National Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources & Related Sciences Conference (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Monika Brijwani** – received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the graduate oral presentation competition at the KSU Research Forum (Dr. Jon Faubion)

**Daniela Nath de Oliveria** – received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Food Product Development Competition, hosted by the American Association of Cereal Chemists (Dr. Jon Faubion)

#### *Horticulture*

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**Brenda Michelle Rivera Morales** – received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Graduate Student Competition at the 2010 International Plant Propagator's Society-Southern Region Meeting; only 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place are awarded and are quite an honor (Dr. Cheryl Boyer)

**Zachariah Starr** – invited to present a poster in the Graduate Student Competition at the 2010 International Plant Propagator's Society-Southern Region Meeting; only four students are invited to present posters and it is quite an honor (Dr. Cheryl Boyer)

**Cole Thompson** – won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the graduate student oral presentations for Division C5 (Turfgrass Science) at the International Crop Science Society of America meeting in Long Beach, CA on Nov 1 (Dr. Jack Fry)

**Zane Raudenbush** – participated in the graduate student oral presentation competition at the International Crop Science Society of America meeting in Long Beach, CA on Nov 1 (Dr. Jack Fry)

**Kira Shonkwiler Arnold** – won the Governor's Award for Outstanding Graduate Poster at the "Water and the Future of Kansas Conference" in Topeka on Oct 26 (Dr. Dale Bremer)

#### *Hospitality Management and Dietetics*

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**Ju Won Choi** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Sooyoung Choi** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Young Gin Choi** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research

Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Jinsoo Hwang** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Jung Hoon (Jay) Lee** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Yee Ming Lee** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Pei Liu** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Wen-Shen (Fiona) Yen** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

**Matthew VanSchenkof** – has had a poster or oral presentation accepted for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Jan 6-8, 2011 (Dr. Deborah Canter)

#### *Human Nutrition*

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**Alisa Doan** – received the Sidel Award for Research Innovation, an international competition, from the Society of Sensory Professionals (Dr. Edgar Chambers IV)

**Gina Besenyi** – had a poster selected as the top student entry at the 2010 Kansas Public Health Association fall conference; her second abstract submission to this conference was one of only 5 student submissions asked to do an oral presentation (Dr. Samara Joy Nielsen, Dr. Andrew Kaczynski)

#### *Sociology*

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**Kara Dillard** – had an essay recognized as one of the top papers in the Feminist and Women's Studies Division at the 2010 National Communication Association conference, San Francisco, CA (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

### Other Recognitions

The students listed in this section did not fit directly into one of the other broad categories, but are equally deserving of recognition for their accomplishments. A brief description of their individual achievements is included for each student.

#### *Geography*

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**Brandon Weihs** – was co-PI on a successful proposal to the University of Wyoming-National Park Service Research Center to fund research (Dr. Richard Marston)

**Tyra Olstad** – recently published a sole-authored peer-reviewed manuscript (Dr. Melinda Daniels)



## *Horticulture*

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**Jacob “Cody” Domenghini** – was nominated and elected as a new graduate student member of Gamma Sigma Delta, the International Honor Society of Agriculture (Dr. Dale Bremer)

## *Sociology*

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**Kara Dillard** – awarded the Graduate Award for Leadership and Service, presented by the K-State Alumni Association (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Egbert Zavala** – recently published two journal articles (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Ben Bolender** – (PhD, 2010) is now a Social Demographer and Statistician at the US Census Bureau (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Terrie Becerra** – (PhD, 2010) is now a Post Doctoral Fellow in the Human Dimensions of Rangeland Ecology and Management at Oklahoma State University (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Sarjo Sanneh Patrick** – (PhD, 2009) is now a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology at Benedict College in Columbia, SC (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

**Ryan Alexander** (ABD, PhD, expected 2011) will begin a tenure-track Assistant Professor position at Wichita State University in Jan 2011 (Dr. Gerad Middendorf)

## **Contact**

If you have any questions, comments, or corrections, please contact Liz Frink ([enfrink@ksu.edu](mailto:enfrink@ksu.edu)), Awards and Recognitions subcommittee chairperson for the Graduate Student Council.