Greetings from my remote office in the Kansas Flint Hills. When students departed campus for spring break in early March, little did we know that for our senior class it was the last time we’d see them in person as a K-State student and for the new class of Fellows we wouldn’t see them again until this next fall. As a risk management center, I must admit we were only moderately prepared for what transpired. Many things we had in the works including a major trip with the students to Washington DC, our partnered conference with CFTC, our launch into executive education, and more were placed in that over-filled postponed bucket. In the meantime, we still had things to do and though we had to change how we did them, we learned a new way to navigate as zooming rapidly became a verb (though I guess it already was). We had several student projects in the works in March that got suddenly shifted into distance mode. While not the delivery methods we’d planned, I commend the students for pushing through this major disruption in life to complete their projects and present the findings to our incredible company sponsors via Zoom. I was so proud of the students and the overall quality of the projects – among the completed projects were an investment scoring and risk assessment tool for a venture capital firm; a survey assessing value of a firm’s customer education programs, and cross-hedging analysis for a major beverage company. In addition to the research projects, other student groups participated in challenge groups, including a case study on higher education risk, a commodity trading challenge and a case study on long term capital management.

We are hearing a variety of stories about diversions in student job and internship plans including fortunately only a few canceled offers, delayed start dates, starting jobs remotely, and for many launching new careers near normal. We also continue to see Fellows taking great jobs with very competitive salaries. The average for the most recent group was over $60,000!

The unplanned interruption this spring provided us with an opportunity to catch up and reflect on ways we can better accomplish our mission and provide value to our students and partners. A significant change we are making is to shift our new student recruiting back a semester to start them as Fellows in the fall (recruit in the spring) instead of January as we have done since our launch in 2013. One important thing this is going to do is better link Student Fellows with partner internship opportunities. This will also make it so seniors are not active Fellows during their final semester in school when the pile of things on their plate necessarily nudges the Center to lower priority.

We are eager to get back to full throttle this fall as we continue to focus our efforts every day on providing value to our students, our partners, and Kansas State University. We’ve never been challenged in the ways we have been this spring and we have learned a lot from the experience. One thing is eminently clear, our relevance and importance in advancing risk management knowledge and capability has never been greater. Thank you for your amazing enduring support. We look forward to continuing to rise to ever higher expectations.

Sincerely,

Ted Schroeder, Director
Center for Risk Management Education & Research
785.532.4488 | tcs@ksu.edu
STUDENT FELLOW AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CLARA WICOFF
MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP, ANDERSON SENIOR AWARD, AGECON OUTSTANDING SENIOR

SADIE POLSON
DEAN OF STUDENT LIFE OUTSTANDING SENIOR

JENNA GOETZMANN
AGECON OUTSTANDING SENIOR

JANSEN PENNY
FRATERNITY MAN OF THE YEAR, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

AVERY BOLAR
1ST PLACE IN GATES CAPITAL MANAGEMENT STOCK PITCH

JULIA MADDOCK
AGECON OUTSTANDING SENIOR

ALI KARAMALI
STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT

DEVIN BRAND
GSC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT

MEGAN BRENCE
GSC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT
STUDENT FELLOW AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GRANT GARDNER
GSC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT

JAMES LIN
GSC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE RECIPIENT

ANDREW MORRISON
ACCOUNTING 2019 DELOITTE AUDIT INNOVATION CAMPUS CHALLENGE AWARD RECIPIENT

WHAT ARE THE 2019-2020 STUDENT FELLOWS DOING AFTER GRADUATION?
STUDENT INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHTS
20-21 STUDENT FELLOWS

THOMAS SMITH Senior in AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS & GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP

“My name is Thomas Smith, and I am a Senior majoring in Agricultural Economics with a specialty in Global Food Systems Leadership. This summer I am working for INTL FCStone as their Risk Management Intern in their Crops and Livestock division in Kansas City. Throughout this summer I am working on different projects that aid our Risk Managers in selecting opportunities to best mitigate the risk for our customers.

This summer I am looking forward to learning more about the different facets of risk management and how they benefit groups and individuals in the agricultural industry. As well as exploring both in-office and work from home environments. Outside of work I am looking forward to exploring Kansas City, and spending time with extended family.”

SARA ROSE Senior in Business & Statistics

“My name is Sarah Rose, and I will graduate from K-State in May 2021 with a major in Mathematics and minors in Business and Statistics. This summer, I am working as an Actuarial Intern with Sun Life Financial. Originally, I was supposed to be working in the Kansas City office, but Sun Life has created incredible opportunities through a remote internship! Within Sun Life, I am working with the Stop Loss Pricing Team. My first project of the summer consists of updating a quarterly report, as well as reassessing and reorganizing data stored in SAS in order to populate Excel files more efficiently.

While working from home, Sun Life has presented many opportunities to learn about different teams within the company. At least once a week, the interns have a Zoom meeting with managers to learn more about what their team does. I have already learned so much about different aspects that factor into risk, and I’m grateful there’s still so much to learn!

The summer won’t look like anyone expected it to, but I am looking forward to the opportunity to work on projects with other interns and employees across the country- my office now expands all the way from Kansas City to Canada! I’m also excited to learn about the actuarial profession from accomplished actuaries as well as form relationships with them!”

JACOB LAND Senior in Industrial Engineering

“Hello! My name is Jacob Land and I am a senior studying Industrial Engineering. This summer, I have the opportunity to work for Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Health Insurance in Topeka, KS. My position is Industrial Engineering Intern and that falls under the Engineering Services department of the company. Engineering Services is an internal consulting department that works with other departments to see how they can eliminate waste and run more effectively.

With the current state of the world, I feel blessed to still have work for this summer. One of my projects at BCBS is to see how working from home has impacted employees efficiency and productivity! I look forward to getting further experience with BCBS the rest of this summer to further my professional self.

My desk in the office is actually right next to the risk management department! I have had some cool conversations with them on what risk looks like in the health insurance industry. I’m eager to get back to campus this fall to expand my knowledge on risk management and see how I can use it in my future.”
SPRING SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

Blake Bauer | HCI Hospitality
Chief Operation Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Real Estate Development

Farm Credit Services of America // Frontier Farm Credit Research Project

Sara Girard | Central National Bank
President

Timothy Barr | Department of Homeland Security
NBAF Project Manager

First Student Fellow Meeting of the 2020 Spring Semester

Cali’Flour Foods Research Project Trip to Denver, CO
STUDENT FELLOW ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

KARLY FREDERICK

**Degree:** B.S. Agribusiness

**Minor:** Leadership

**Current Position:** Marketing Manager, BTI John Deere

“I graduated with a major in Agribusiness and a minor in Leadership in May of 2017. I am currently the Marketing Manager of BTI John Deere, a John Deere dealer in central and western Kansas. As Marketing Manager, I manage the advertising strategy for our parts, service, and sales departments. The advertising responsibilities include the website, social media, traditional media, promotional materials, and digital marketing. Digital advertising is always evolving and includes Search Engine Optimization and Search Engine Marketing. Other aspects of my job include public relations, communications, and brand consistency. The aspect I love the most about my job is working with our department managers to create marketing strategies that create value for our farmer customers. The involvement in CRMER was a great experience to be exposed to all aspects of the agricultural industry and network with people that are shaping the industry. Those experiences are always valuable to me.”