

National Teach Ag Campaign

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FUTURE AGRISCIENCE TEACHERS SELECTED TO ATTEND NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Twenty-four future agriscience teachers participated in five days of professional development and networking as part of the 2016 National Association of Agricultural Educators annual convention. The participants, who are majoring in agricultural education at universities and colleges across the United States, were selected from a pool of nationwide candidates to participate in the Future Agriscience Teacher (FAST) symposium. The event consisted of professional development training, including instruction on inquiry-based teaching methods by National Agriscience Teacher Ambassadors, classroom management, and developing engaging lessons. In addition to professional development, attendees also participated in organizational business, committee and regional meetings.

The FAST symposium is a component of the National Teach Ag Campaign, an initiative to raise awareness of the need to recruit and retain quality and diverse agriculture teachers, encourage others to consider a career teaching agriculture, and celebrate the positive contributions that agriculture teachers make in their schools and communities. The FAST symposium provides essential training and support to equip future agriscience teachers with 21st century science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills through practical application in the context of agriculture.

“The best way to ensure future student success is to invest in teachers,” said Ellen Thompson, National Teach Ag Campaign Project Director “These future agriscience teachers will be able to take what they learned and apply it to their future classrooms and impact countless young people.”

The 24 FAST participants were: AJ Argueta, University of Arizona; Jared Biciolis, University of Arizona; Shannon Connolly, Clemson University; Noah Crosson, University of California-Davis; Tyler D’Angelo, University of Florida; Alan Green, Michigan State University; Leann Green, North Carolina State University; Kayla Hack, Pennsylvania State University; Amy Hesselgesser, Oklahoma State University; Miranda Kane, Pennsylvania State University; Juliana Krotz, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Samantha Lucas, West Virginia University; Andrew Miles, Oregon State University; Callie Moles, West Virginia University; Bailey Riedel, CalPoly-San Luis Obispo; Chrisinda Scheideler, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Mathew Smith, Tennessee State University; Carley Snider, The Ohio State University; Matt Snyder, Pennsylvania State University; Jennifer Stoneking, West Virginia State University; Mattison Sullivan, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Carrie Summerford, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Blake Uchitjil, Southern Illinois University and Jason Wetzler, Oklahoma State University.

The National Teach Ag Campaign is an initiative of the National Council for Agricultural Education led by the National Association of Agricultural Educators, funded by the CHS Foundation, DuPont Pioneer and Growth Energy as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. The campaign is designed to raise an awareness of the need to recruit and retain quality and diverse agriculture teachers, encourage others to consider a career teaching agriculture and celebrate the positive contributions that agriculture teachers make in their schools and communities. For more information about the National Teach Ag Campaign, visit <http://www.naae.org/teachag>.

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