

Annual Report of the Western Illinois University's Agricultural Education Program
2021-2022 Academic Year
Submitted by Dr. Andrew J. Baker

General Comments:

I have just completed my twenty-third year as the teacher educator for the Agricultural Education program at Western Illinois University. I am very fortunate to have had some great students that have followed their dream and became teachers of excellence. I have had two graduates that have pursued their PhD's in Agricultural Education and are now developing future teachers at Illinois State University and Murray State University. I had one graduate enter graduate school this past fall at Iowa State University to secure her PhD in Agricultural Education. Several of my graduates have been selected for teaching awards (listed on the last page of this report), which can be attributed to their teaching excellence. This program has produced teachers that are teaching in six different states impacting students across the country. I have spent two decades as the sole faculty member preparing students for a career in Agricultural Education as well as Director of the School of Agriculture for eleven of those years. Agricultural Education majors continue to secure positions and remain in the profession assisting with state placement and retention issues. It is a good feeling, because the program has graduated 103 candidates in this twenty-three-year period. Of those 103 candidates, 91 were placed into teaching positions, which has established an 88% placement rate. Of those 91 candidates, 60 are still teaching, which is 67% retention rate. However, 189 students have at least enrolled in one or more Agricultural Education courses over the twenty-three-year period, which indicates that 46% (n=86) did not pursue Agricultural Education as a major. Some of the variables that impact the percentage of students not wanting to pursue the teaching field certainly are state license requirements. Over the past several years, the state has utilized the ACT composite of 22 as a passing score for admittance into teacher education. The state has since dropped the ACT/SAT requirement, which may help teacher education programs across the state. The edTPA has been fully integrated since fall 2015 semester and is the final assessment to determine if a student receives their IL teaching license. For some students, the edTPA does impact their desire to complete the state teacher licensure requirements. However, the edTPA has been waived by the State Illinois for the past four semesters, due to the pandemic. I feel our teacher education program is one of the premier programs in the state. Our placement and retention rates are some of the best in the state over the last several years. Over a twenty-three-year period, we have sustained an 88% placement rate (n=91) and a 67% retention rate (n=60) for our program, which I believe is something to be proud of. I believe these statistics prove we are the institution of choice for Agricultural Education in Illinois!

The curriculum is still field-based, which allows our students to gain those valuable hours of practice prior to student teaching. We collected seven years of work-sample data from my students prior to full implementation of the edTPA. Even though the State of Illinois have waived the edTPA for the last 4 semesters and are unsure on how they will proceed in the future, so I will report on past data. We have had 19 students take and pass the edTPA for a program average score of 49 points out of 75 points. The current pass score is a score of 39. I am very proud of the 19 program completers that tackled this activity over the last seven years and handled it with a great deal of professionalism. The West Central Agricultural Education Advisory Council met twice over the academic year with stable attendance. We attend an

IAVAT Student Branch workshop in the spring and the bus tour in the fall. Our Agricultural Education numbers have remained fairly stable with about 18 majors in the program. There were only 36 Agricultural Education graduates state-wide this year (as shown below), which WIU had five of those state-wide graduates (14%). The state-wide number of graduates (N=36), which is the same as last year. It is illustrated on the last chart (**highlighted**) that WIU is the top institution in placement rate (82%) among the other three Illinois agricultural institutions in the state and second in the number of graduates placed over that 15-year period (N=56). More importantly, WIU holds the lowest FTE among the four teacher preparation institutions (WIU = .5 FTE, ISU = 2.0 FTE's, SIU = 2.0 FTE's, U of I = 3.0 FTE's). WIU is not the largest Agricultural Education program in the state, but it certainly is the most productive program when comparing FTE's and placement rates.

2021-2022 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

Institution	# Grads	# Placed	% Placed
ISU	5	4	80%
SIU	9	7	78%
U of I	17	11	65%
WIU	5	5	100%
Totals	36	27	75%

2020-2021 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

Institution	# Grads	# Placed	% Placed
ISU	8	7	87%
SIU	5	2	40%
U of I	17	12	70%
WIU	6	6	100%
Totals	36	27	75%

2019-2020 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

Institution	# Grads	# Placed	% Placed
ISU	4	4	100%
SIU	5	3	60%
U of I	6	5	83%
WIU	6	5	83%
Totals	21	17	81%

2018-2019 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

Institution	# Grads	# Placed	% Placed
ISU	6	5	83%
SIU	7	3	43%
U of I	13	8	62%
WIU	1	1	100%
Totals	27	17	63%

2017-2018 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	7	6	86%
SIU	9	8	89%
U of I	13	12	92%
WIU	7	7	100%
Totals	36	33	92%

2016-2017 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	5	3	60%
SIU	7	6	86%
U of I	7	6	86%
WIU	2	2	100%
Totals	21	17	81%

2015-2016 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	6	4	66.7%
SIU	4	2	50%
U of I	6	4	66.7%
WIU	6	4	66.7%
Totals	22	14	64%

2014-2015 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	3	2	66%
SIU	2	2	100%
U of I	11	7	64%
WIU	1	1	100%
Totals	17	12	71%

2013-2014 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	0	0	0%
SIU	3	2	66%
U of I	5	3	60%
WIU	4	4	100%
Totals	12	9	75%

2012-2013 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	3	3	100%
SIU	2	0	0%
U of I	3	0	0%
WIU	3	3	100%
Totals	11	6	55%

2011-2012 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	5	3	60%
SIU	7	4	57%
U of I	11	7	64%
WIU	5	5	100%
Totals	28	19	68%

2010-2011 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	8	7	88%
SIU	13	3	23%
U of I	11	4	36%
WIU	3	1	33%
Totals	35	15	43%

2009-2010 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	5	2	40%
SIU	12	4	33%
U of I	1	0	0%
WIU	8	6	75%
Totals	26	12	46%

2008-2009 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	4	2	50%
SIU	8	3	37.5%
U of I	6	2	33.3%
WIU	5	3	60%
Totals	23	10	43.5%

2007-2008 State-wide Graduates in Agricultural Education:

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	2	2	100%
SIU	7	0	0%
U of I	5	5	100%
WIU	6	4	66.6%
Totals	19	11	58%

(2007-2022) 15 Year Running Total of State-Wide Graduate in Agricultural Education

<u>Institution</u>	<u># Grads</u>	<u># Placed</u>	<u>% Placed</u>
ISU	71	54	76%
SIU	100	49	49%
U of I	132	86	65%
WIU	68	56	82%
Totals	371	245	66%

West Central Agricultural Education Advisory Council:

Chair: Mr. Mitch Miller (Midwest Central HS)

Vice-Chair: Mr. Colton Downs (Canton HS)

Secretary: Any Agricultural Education major present

Agricultural Education Students:

There were 5 student teachers this year and 5 program completers that were licensed by the State of Illinois this year. We have been able to continue our quest for excellent student teaching placements. Students excelled in their student teaching placements, because of the excellence in the mentoring process.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Semester</u>	<u>Stud. Teach. Center</u>	<u>Employment Status</u>
Matt Wright	Fl 2021	Clark County, MO	ET instructor at Rushville HS
Alicia Flowers	Fl 2021	Louisiana, MO	Louisiana, MO HS
Kaitlyn Kane	Sp 2022	Franklin	Franklin HS (2 nd ag teacher)
Colby Trone	Sp 2022	Knoxville	Knoxville JHS (jr high ag teacher)
Katie Carter	Sp 2022	Triopia	Mt. Pulaski jr high science teacher

Each student teacher had three face-to-face visits from me this year. Each face-to-face visit would at least be three to four hours in length. Each visit, I tried to observe at least two courses and had a debriefing discussion with the student teacher and cooperating teacher about their progress. I logged in about 1700 miles of travel and 120 employment hours for student teacher visitations this year. The numbers of miles have increased along with about the same employment hours as last year. I was also responsible for visiting seven 1st year teachers this past year, which was a collaborating effort among the four Illinois public institutions, which offer an Agricultural Education degree (U of I, WIU, SIU, & ISU), to improve retention rates among beginning agriculture teachers. This was our sixth year in this collaborative project. The four institutions meet each year in June and decide which institution will visit each beginning teacher by geographic regions. I logged in about 1120 miles and about 70 employment hours visiting and observing these seven 1st year teachers. I am happy to say that all seven 1st year teachers have signed a 2nd year contract as an agriculture teacher.

The placement rate for this year's group is 100% (5 out of 5), which is the same as last year's placement rate. The program has established a 100% placement rate for 9 out of the last 11 years.

Retention rates are still a priority of the program, which are highlighted in the table below. The class of 2020-2021 (N=6) has 100% retention rate with one teaching in Minnesota. The class of 2019-2020 (N=5) has established a 100% retention rate going into this upcoming year. The class of 2018-2019 (N=1) maintains a 100% retention rate. The class of 2017-2018 (N=6) has established a 86% retention rate with one graduate taking a NRCS position in the State of Georgia. The class of 2016-2017 (N=2) has established a 100% retention rate with 1 graduate has returned to teaching this upcoming year. The class of 2015-2016 (N=4) has established a 25% retention rate going into this upcoming year with 1 retaining their position and 3 left the profession. The class of 2014-2015 (N=1) has maintained a 100% retention rate and this candidate has earned numerous teaching awards. The class of 2013-2014 (N=4) has established a 75% retention rate going into this upcoming year with 3 retaining positions with 1 teaching in

California. The 2012-2013 class (N=3) has established 66.7% retention in the profession with two graduates still in the teaching profession and entering their 10th year at the same school. The 2011-2012 class has established a 20% retention rate with 1 out of the 5 left in the teaching profession. The 2010-2011 group has established 100% retention rate (1 out of 1) among the graduates who have been placed. The 2009-2010 (N=8) group had seven out of the eight were placed with four of the seven (57%) have been retained in the education profession. One individual is still with their original school. One hundred percent (3 out of 3) of the 2008-2009 class who have been placed are still teaching. Fifty percent (2 out of 4) of the 2007-2008 class have been retained for their 15th year contract. Sixty-six percent (2 out of 3) of the 2006-2007 class are in the teaching field today. The one individual has signed his 16th year contract in his initial school in Iowa. One graduate out of this class has secured employment at Murray State University as their Agricultural Education faculty member who earned his PhD in Agricultural Education from Iowa State. The 2005-2006 class sits at 50% (2 out of 4) of the placed individuals are still in the teaching field. Three individuals (100%) remain of the 2004-2005 class. No individuals of 2003-2004 (0 out of 3) class are teaching at this time, but one individual taught for 11 years before leaving the profession. Fifty percent (2 out of 4) of 2002-2003 graduates remain in the profession. Seventy-one percent (5 out of 7) of the 2001-2002 graduates are still in the profession. One graduate has earned his PhD in Agricultural Education and is the new Assistant Professor in Agricultural Education at Illinois State University. Seventy-five percent (3 out of 4) of the 2000-2001 placed individuals have still been retained in the profession and are entering their 22nd year with all 3 still with their initial school, which is almost unheard of today. WIU's graduates are still succeeding very well in the profession, which is the main objective of the program.

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2020-2021 Class</u>			
Hannah Libby	Fl 20	Mercer County	Mercer County 2 nd year
Brandon Livingston	Fl 20	Mercer County	Mercer County 2 nd year
Sydney Riden	Sp 21	Rushville	Rushville 2 nd year
Rachel Whitlock	Sp 21	Liberty	Liberty 2 nd year
Courtney Thorman	Sp 21	Rushford-Peterson, MN	Rushford-Peterson 2 nd year
Danielle McConnvile	Sp 21	Oakwood	Ottawa CTE 1 st year

2019-2020 Class

Emily Millburg	Fl 19	Chester	Chester 3 rd year
Cassie Perrin	Sp 20	Brownstown	Brownstown 3 rd year
Anna Shupe	Sp 20	Paris	Paris 3 rd year
Megan Meade	Sp 20	Cerro Gordo	Cerro Gordo 3 rd year
Haley Smith	Sp 20	Abingdon-Avon	Abingdon-Avon 3 rd year
Brianna Parada	Sp 20	Working for SS	Working for SS

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
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2018-2019 Class

Lindsey O'Hara	Sp 18	Louisiana, MO (2)	Silex, MO 2 nd year
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<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2017-2018 Class</u>			
Kacie Priebe	Fl 17	Covington, GA (4)	GA NRCS agent
Martin Nall	Fl 17	Unity-Mendon (1.5)	Camp Point 4 th year
Dusti Ingles	Fl 17	Alton (1) Freeburg (2)	Grad sch Ag Ed ISU
Brent Nelson	Sp 18	Franklin	Franklin 5 th year
Christian Thurwanger	Sp 18	Kaneland	Sycamore 4 th year
Mariana Roberts	Sp18	Payson-Seymour (4)	Liberty 1 st year
Colton Downs	Sp 18	Canton	Canton 5 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2016-2017 Class</u>			
Kayla Riedle	Sp 17	Shawnee (3)	Clinton 1 st year
Samantha Martin	Fl 16	Edinburg	Edinburg 6 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2015-2016 Class</u>			
Kole Stadt	Sp 16	Prairie Central (5)	Left teaching
Grace Foster	Fl 15	Rushville (5)	Left teaching
Evan Sheppard	Fl 15	Beardstown (1) GP (5)	Left teaching
Richard Houzenga	Fl 15	Riverdale (Jan '16)	Riverdale 7 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2014-2015 Class</u>			
Trent Taber	Sp 15	Cambridge	Cambridge 8 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2013-2014 Class</u>			
Liz Fanning	Fl 13	Hartsburg-Emden (4 yrs)	Edwardsville 5 th year
Jeff Rieck	Fl 13	Cambridge (1.5 years)	Seed Sales
Riley Hintzsche	Sp 14	Streator	Streator 9 th year
Kaylyn Schiber	Sp 14	Livingston, CA	Livingston 9 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2012-2013 Class</u>			
Teri Hooper	Fl 12	Payson-Seymour (1)	Chiropractor's Office
Julie Herrmann	Sp 13	Indian Creek	Indian Creek 10 th year
Emily Huntington	Sp 13	Belvidere	Belvidere 10 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2011-2012 Class</u>			
Wyatt McGrew	Sp 12	Rushville (3 years)	Macomb 8 th year
Emily Bogner	Sp 12	Abingdon (1 year)	Left teaching
Veronica Handegan	Fl 11	Edinburg (1.5) Mattoon (2)	Title Insurance
Rachel Skien	Fl 11	B-town (1) Havana (3) Lewis(1)	Left teaching
Cory Sprung	Fl 11	Bluffs	Left teaching

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2010-2011 Class</u>			
Ashley Mason	Sp 11	Grad school (U of F)	Monsanto
Kelli Titus	Sp 11	program non-completer	
Bryan Schullian	Fl 10	Southeastern	Southeastern 12 th year
Jennifer Twardowski	Fl 10	Overseas teaching	Graduate School in CA

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2009-2010 Class</u>			
Kate Wedekind	Sp 10	Hillsboro (2) Pawnee (2)	Left teaching
Samantha White	Sp 10	Bank Teller	Bank Teller
Bonnie Peterson	Sp 10	MR (1)Ft Madison, IA (9)	Left teaching
Laura Belville	Sp 10	VIT (1) Liberty (2)	Teaching at private sch
Garrett Helregel	Sp 10	Dieterich	Dieterich 13 th year
Doug Nelson	Sp 10	8 years of teaching	Selling seed corn
Mallory Swanson	Fl 09	Kewanee (4)	Knoxville 7 th year
Liz Alloway	Fl 09	Jacksonville (3)	Bluffs 10 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2008-2009 Class</u>			
Justin Dikeman	Sp 09	Pioneer Inc.	Pioneer Inc.
Kelly Kretzer	Sp 09	Southeastern (2)	Quincy 7 th year
Cindy Schriener	Sp 08	Milledgeville (3)	Eastland 11 th year
Stacey Rohrscheib	Sp 08	Warsaw	Salt Fork 3 rd year
Shannon Fatland	FL 08	Wedding planner	Wedding planner

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2007-2008 Class</u>			
Jackie Burns	Spring 08	4 years of teaching	Stay at home mom
Blaine Hartwick	Spring 08	Triopia (8)	Carrollton 7 th year
Matt Meyer	Spring 08	Stockton (6)	Mendota 9 th year
Kami Kates	Spring 08	8 years of teaching	Stay at home mom
Mary Olson	Spring 08	Midwest Technical Instit.	Midwest Technical Instit.
James Kennedy	Fall 07	Advance Crop Services	Advance Crop Services

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2006-2007 Class</u>			
Jerry Driscoll	Spring 07	Sigourney, IA	Sigourney, IA 16 th year
Elly Troxell	Spring 07	Polo (2 yrs)	Stay @ home mom
Matt Shultz	Fall 06	Ventura, IA (2.5)	Teacher educator at MSU
Chad Lambert	Fall 06	?????	Pioneer Inc.

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2005-2006 Class</u>			
Kristie Monier	Spring 06	2 years of teaching	??????
Miles Allen	Fall 05	Illini Central (2007)	Illini Central 17 th year
Robin Fisher	Fall 05	3 years of teaching	Implement dealer
Alison Thompson	Fall 05	VIT (2) Avon (6) BPC (6)	WP Stem teacher 1 st year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2004-2005 Class</u>			
Tara Lafollette	Spring 05	P H (2) Beard (4)	Elwood 9 th year
Jennifer Pickett	Fall 04	Winchester (1 ½) Astoria (2)	Williamsville 9 th year
Jeremiah Simmons	Fall 04	Lewistown (1 ½)	Astoria 6 th year

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2003-2004 Class</u>			
Corey Terwilliger	Spring 04	11 years of teaching	????
Adam Duffield	Spring 04	1 year of teaching	Unknown
Sara Evans	Spring 04	1 year of teaching	Restaurant owner

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2002-2003 Class</u>			
Nicole Thornton	Spring 03	Rantoul (2)	Delevan 9 th year
John Davin	Spring 03	Palmyra (2) Edwards (13)	Staunton 5 th year
Caylin Mahr	Spring 03	4 years of teaching	teaching math MR
Tim Phillips (C) (G)	Spring 03	2 years of teaching	Self-employed

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2001-2002 Class</u>			
Jay Solomonson	Spring 02	Orion (17)	Ag Ed professor @ ISU
Sam DeCounter	Spring 02	Carthage (14)	WP 7 th year
Tad White (C)	Spring 02	Lewistown	Unknown
Wendy Leenerts (C)	Spring 02	Waterloo (1) IW (3)	Hoopeston 1 st year
Rhonda Marshang(G)	Spring 02	Annawan 1 st year	unknown
Dan Oilar (G)	Fall 01	Nauvoo-Colusa (6.5)	Kahoka, MO 15 th year
Kent Rigg	Fall 01	Chenoa (3.5) Roseville (2)	Williamsfield 16 th year
Darren Moser	Fall 01	IL Dept of Ag	IL Department of Agriculture
Dan Klein	Fall 01	Family Farm	Working on Family Farm

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>2000-2001 Class</u>			
Amy Frericks-Lucie	Spring 01	Unity-Mendon	Unity-Mendon 22 st year
Chad Mahlers	Spring 01	Serena	Serena 22 st year
Aaron Heartt	Spring 01	Aledo	Aledo 22 st year
Emily Bagett	Spring 01	Special Ed. Assist.	Bowling Green, MO
L.C. Coghill	Fall 00	West Pike (3)	Grad school

<u>Name</u>	<u>ST Semester</u>	<u>1st Year Employment</u>	<u>Current Employment</u>
<u>1999-2000 Class</u>			
Jason Timerman	Spring 00	Westmer (1) Jerseyville (3)	IA instructor Sherrard, IL
Mike Frederickson	Fall 99	CHSAS (1) Harvard (2)	?????

Currently, there are 4 students that are arranged to student teach this upcoming 2022-2023 academic year. I will have three student teachers planned for the fall 2022 semester, which are **Mr. Jamie Hildreth, Ms. Kinsey Tiemann and Ms. Kristy Weidhuner**. They will be student teaching at **Macomb, Unity-Mendon, and Williamsville** respectively. I will have one student teacher planned for the spring 2023 semester, which is, **Ms. Katie Riggins**. She will student teach at **Prairie Central**. I am very excited to utilize two new programs this year as Prairie Central and Williamsville are new to the mix.

I also would like to highlight WIU students who are currently provisionally licensed in Illinois that are teaching agriculture currently, which I think highlights the effectiveness of the School of Agriculture to prepare students with a well-rounded education in agriculture to be able to teach high school students. They are:

Kate Elliott = Jacksonville HS
 Abby Smith Harrison = Lewistown HS
 Max Look = Farmington HS
 Matt Hampton = Northwestern-Palmyra HS
 Mitch Miller = Seneca HS
 Kaci McAfee = Southwestern HS
 Jennifer Honnold = Chrisman HS
 Mason Vincent = AC Central HS
 Morgan Lemley = Pleasant Plains HS
 Darin DeNeal = Carrier Mills-Stonefort HS
 Chandler Gilbraith = Morrison HS
 Kelsey Handy = Triopia HS
 Logan Runyon = North Mac HS

There were 3 students enrolled in the Introductory Agricultural Education Course (AgEd 131) this year. They traveled over 250 miles as a group, visiting over two different high school agricultural education programs in Illinois. They had to log in at least 10 hours of classroom observation to meet the course requirements.

The students enrolled in the Planning and Organizing Ag Ed Programs Course (AgEd 331) conducted Ag Literacy Projects with the 3rd and 5th grade classes at St. Paul Elementary School. They logged in over 15 hours of instruction time to complete this project. We taught lessons virtually using the Farm Bureau Ag Mags on dairy, biotechnology, pizza, soybeans, apples, water, nutrition, careers, poultry, and corn.

The students enrolled in the Agriculture Methods Course (Ed 439) logged in over 12 hours of instruction time at West Prairie High School. We taught the first period in both Mr. DeCounter's and Ms. Biswell's classes, so we taught 2 classes each day in a face-to-face format.

Curriculum Changes:

Institutional change of the "C" to a "C-" grade for all education majors.

External Funding:

This year the WIU's Agricultural Education Program received \$9,625 in funding for program improvement. We were able to get \$50,000 in a GAST Grant for a total of \$59,625 in external funding into the program this year. It was a very good year as far as funding was concerned. We were able to provide fourteen Ag Ed internships this year with seven being current WIU students, one being a Spoon River student. The program also offered six internships to high school students. We are looking to expand the internships to more community college and high school students to increase our transfer and new students into the program. We were able to offer \$3000 worth of Ag Ed scholarships as well.

CFFA/Ag Ed Club/PAS:

Being the advisor for these organizations, I feel it is necessary to report the activities of these organizations in this report. AS this was a very usual year, we were able to hold some of our normal events during the pandemic. We still hosted the Greenhand Conference (on-campus), IL FFA Association Ground Zero conference (on-campus), and the IL State FFA Job Interview CDE (in-person). Here are some of the achievements over the years from my Ag Ed majors:

National PAS Officer (2018-2019) = Sarah Nelson ('20)

National PAS Officer (2014-2015) = Grace Foster ('16)

National PAS Officer (2013-2014) = Riley Hintzsche ('15)

National PAS Officer (2012-2013) = Jennifer Honnold ('14)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed Placement Interview (2012) = Wyatt McGrew ('12)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed CPA (2012) = Kaylyn Schiber ('14)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed Placement Interview (2013) = Riley Hintzsche ('15)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed CPA (2013) = Riley Hintzsche ('15)

National PAS 2nd Place Winner Ag Ed Placement Interview (2014) = Jennifer Honnold ('14)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed CPA (2014) = Jennifer Honnold ('14)

National PAS 2nd Place Winner Ag Ed CPA (2017) = Martin Nall ('17)

National PAS 2nd Place Winner Ag Ed CPA (2018) = Mariana Roberts ('18)

National PAS 1st Place Winner Ag Ed Employment Interview (2018) = Mariana Roberts ('18)

National PAS 6th Place Winner Ag Ed Employment Interview (2021) = Luke Jergarz ('24)

National PAS 9th Place Winner Ag Ed Employment Interview (2022) = Kaitlyn Kane ('22)

National PAS 1th Place Winner Floriculture Employment Interview (2022) = Luke Jergarz ('24)

National Collegiate Ag Ambassador (2015-2016) = Leslie Borries ('16)

National Collegiate Ag Ambassador (2015-2016) = Dusti Irwin ('17)

National Collegiate Ag Ambassador (2009-2010) = Ashley Mason ('11)

National Collegiate Ag Ambassador (2006-2007) = Matt Meyer ('08)

Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers IAVAT President (2014-2015) = Jay Solomonson ('02)

NAAE (National Association of Agricultural Educators) Teacher Mentor (IL Rep) (2016-2017) = Dr. Andy Baker

NAAE Outstanding Early Career Teacher Region 4 Winner (2018-2019) = Bryan Schullian ('10)

NAAE Outstanding Early Career Teacher Region (IL Rep) (2020-2021) = Riley Hintzsche ('14)

NAAE Teachers Turn the Key Award Region 4 Recipient (2018-2019) = Riley Hintzsche ('14)

NAAE Outstanding Middle/Secondary Ag Ed Program Region 4 Winner (2020-2021) = Cambridge/Trent Taber ('15)

NAAE Outstanding Post-Secondary Ag Ed Program Region 4 Winner (2020-2021) = Dr. Andy Baker

NAAE Outstanding Middle/Secondary Ag Ed Program (IL Rep) (2021-2022) = Sycamore/Christian Thurwanger ('17)

NAAE Outstanding Early Career Teacher Region (IL Rep) (2020-2021) = Trent Taber ('15)

CATA (California Agricultural Teachers Association) Outstanding Young Teacher Award (2018-2019) = Kaylyn Davenport ('14)