

100 AG ECON Centennial

When an institution reaches 100 years, it is a grand accomplishment and cause for reflection, pride and celebration. The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Missouri leads the way in every facet of policy analysis and information through its long-running lecture series, project-focused centers, hands-on seminars, and leadership training for its students. Over the years the department has been known for its insight; looking to the future and identifying the resources and information needed for its students, outreach and extension programs and research.

The department has been reflecting on its centennial for nearly a year, and invites you to join in the celebration!



That's a fact

- Total living alumni: 2,700
- Spring 2011 graduates (undergrad): 48
- Faculty members: 33
- Undergraduate degree programs: Agribusiness management, Agricultural economics
- Graduate degree programs: Agribusiness management, Public policy analysis, Resources and development



The department's centennial was the main attraction at the **CAFNR Ag Alumni Tailgate**, Oct. 23, 2010. About 50 agribusiness and agricultural economics graduates were special guests at this Homecoming celebration. Featured were cakes decorated to highlight the centennial.

See more images online at: cafnr.missouri.edu/alumni/homecoming2010

See more images online at the department's Facebook page, linked from: dass.missouri.edu/agecon

The department hosted a **Centennial Open House** Feb. 5, 2011, in Mumford Hall. The event welcomed alumni and friends and included tours of new technology classrooms, the **J. Bruce Bullock Student Center** and the **Elmer R. Kiehl foyer**. Attendees networked with faculty and fellow alumni and were treated to refreshments, games, demonstrations, a slideshow and memorabilia displays.

Timeline

<p>1910 Department of Farm Management established at MU by D. Howard Doane</p>	<p>1912 First M.S. degrees awarded by the department to O.R. Johnson (M.S.) and William A. Watkins (M.A.) (Johnson later served as department chair)</p>	<p>1924 Department moves into Mumford Hall</p>	<p>1935 First Ph.D. awarded, to Howard E. Golden</p>	<p>1960 First female faculty member, Lorene Wilson, joins the department</p>	<p>1984 FAPRI is created as a joint research institute between MU and Iowa State University</p>	<p>1989 Chancellor Brady Deaton joins the department as professor and chair</p>	<p>1990 MU College of Agriculture reorganized into six-unit College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; the department becomes part of the Division of Applied Social Sciences</p>	<p>2009 Department changes name to Agricultural and Applied Economics</p>
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EXCELLENCE

The program was established in 1910 as the department of farm management by **D. Howard Doane**, MU alum and founder of Doane Agricultural Services. Initial work in management and accounts quickly expanded to include many other economic relationships involved in agriculture, including:

- ▶ Costs of farm operations and of production of commodities;
- ▶ Marketing farm products;
- ▶ Farm cooperatives;
- ▶ Legal aspects of property ownership, use, transfer and taxation;
- ▶ Farm organization and planning;
- ▶ Economics of conservation.

The development of agribusiness extended the economic relationships of agriculture much farther into manufacturing industries, and into the marketing, processing and distribution of farm products. Departmental research over the years always has closely followed trends – the Great Depression and drought years of the 1930s, for example, directed research toward land use, taxation and farm finances. Rapid changes in the

science and technology of agriculture after the second World War meant another shift in research programs, to include economic effects of new technology.

Today, through its research, teaching and extension, the program looks to how the planet will manage its natural resources while simultaneously increasing production of food, fiber and biofuels to meet growing demand.

Many faculty members have gone on to positions of prominence at the University of Missouri, including:

- 1 **Brady Deaton**, Chancellor, University of Missouri (2004-current). He joined MU in 1989 as professor and chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics.
- 2 **J. Bruce Bullock**, Associate Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources and Associate Director of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station (1988-2006).
- 3 **C. Brice Ratchford**, President of the University of Missouri System (1971-1976). Took the title President

Emeritus while he served as Professor of Agricultural Economics.

- 4 **Elmer Kiehl**, Dean of the College of Agriculture (1960-1979). First hired as extension livestock marketing specialist in 1947.

Funds raised in honor of **Dr. Bruce Bullock** were used to endow a fund in Dr. Bullock's name. The fund helped to create the student center named after Dr. Bullock, intended to honor Bullock's passion for developing student potential. It is a convenient place for students to gather between classes, check email, hold small meetings, and consult with the student services coordinator. ▶



Other alum who are/were national leaders:

- ▶ **William Jasper Spillman** (B.S. and M.S. 1880s, honorary Ph.D. 1910). Served as head of the USDA's new Office of Farm Management beginning in 1904. Was elected first president of the American Farm Management Association.
- ▶ **Glenn Grimes** (B.S. 1951, M.S. 1965), alumnus and professor emeritus, was inducted into the National Pork Producers Council Hall of Fame for his outstanding contributions to the pork industry in March 2010. Grimes worked for the school for more than 58 years.
- ▶ **Ryland Utlaut** (B.S. 1963) is former president and chairman of the board of the National Corn Growers Association.
- ▶ **David Haggard** (B.S. 1965) is former president of the American Soybean Association.
- ▶ **Donald L. Cupps** (B.S. 1978). Was named to the University of Missouri Board of Curators in January 2011. Cupps practices law at Ellis, Cupps and Cole in Cassville.
- ▶ **Kenny Hulshof** (B.S. 1980), served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1997-2009 for Missouri's 9th district. He was the Republican candidate for Missouri governor in 2008.

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“I was both challenged and inspired by faculty and advisors in the Agriculture Economics Department during the early 1960s. The total experience of learning, social interaction, and student leadership opportunities prepared me for a rewarding career in banking.”

— **Bob Thompson**
(B.S. 1964, retired farmer and banker)

Executive-in-Residence Program

Since 1997, executives like these have returned to campus to give back to students by sharing industry experience in the classroom as part of the Executive-in-Residence program. Envisioned and endowed by the generosity of the Reich family, this one-on-one interaction offers a rare life experience for students and the Executive-in-Residence.



Graduates of the department lead Fortune 500 companies, entrepreneurial endeavors and government agencies

- ▶ **Christine Cochran** (B.S. 1998), President of Commodity Markets Council, a trade association representing commodity futures exchanges and exchange participants.
- ▶ **William (Bill) Buckner** (B.S. 1979), President and CEO of Bayer CropScience LP (retired). 
- ▶ **Joseph C. Roetheli** (B.S. 1970, Ph.D. 1979), Chief Executive Officer, Key Companies and Associates, LLC. Roetheli created a chewable dog treat, Greenies®, which became the eighth largest pet food/treat company in the world.
- ▶ **Frank Day** (B.S. 1979), Director of Commodities Operations, The Hershey Company. He has more than 30 years of experience managing commodity cost risk. 
- ▶ **Brett Begemann** (B.S. 1983), Executive Vice

President, International Commercial, Monsanto Company, responsible for operations in Europe, Africa, Asia Pacific and South America.

- ▶ **Lise Herren** (B.S. 1982), Vice President and Group Executive, Anheuser-Busch Packaging Group. 

- ▶ **Kenneth Roberts** (M.S. 1978), Associate Administrator, United States Department of Agriculture (retired). Is currently with Kraft, Washington, D.C.

- ▶ **Alvin E. (Al) McQuinn** (B.S. 1954), Founder, President and CEO, Ag-Chem Equipment Co., Inc. (retired), leader in agricultural application equipment and a pioneer in the use of GPS technologies to guide precise placement of agricultural fertilizers and other inputs.

▶ **Are you giving back to the department like these alums? See opportunities to do so under "Connections"**

*Much of the history of the department was drawn from the book: "The Centennial Report 1870-1970 of the College of Agriculture," J.H. Longwell.

INNOVATION

- ▶ The department supports *world-class research centers*, including the Contracting and Organizations Research Institute, Economics and Management of Agrobiotechnology Center, and the Missouri Value Added Center. The department's Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute recently celebrated its 25th anniversary of providing market and policy analysis. The Center for Applied Research and Environmental Systems helps public and private parties learn about and manage resources.

Randall Westgren (standing, red shirt), professor of agribusiness management, is one of three leaders of the Entrepreneurship Project, a program funded by a USDA grant for beginning farmer and rancher development. Each of the four modules in the program begins with farm tours. Participants listen closely to Rusty Lee, of Lee Farms.



- ▶ The department is working to develop an *all-campus entrepreneurship minor* that will include at least three agricultural economics courses. Focusing on entrepreneurship is a hallmark:
 - A gift from **Joe Roetheli** supports *entrepreneurial efforts* in the department, encouraging students to broaden their thinking on what entrepreneurship is, or can be. This gift has supported an annual Entrepreneurship Book Club, for example.
 - The **Al and Mary Agnes McQuinn Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurial Leadership** and **McQuinn Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership** were established in 2004 with generous support from **Alvin E. (Al) and Mary Agnes McQuinn**. The McQuinn Center promotes research, teaching and outreach on the nature, causes and consequences of entrepreneurship. The endowed chair, within the department, (currently held by Randall Westgren)

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“Mentoring was a highlight of my graduate program. Dr. Don VanDyne, formerly with the USDA Office of Energy, was not only my advisor but also a mentor. The little things made the difference; traveling to Washington, D.C., to introduce me to representatives of several federal agencies as well as the simple task of showing me how to travel on the Metro system.”

— **Alan Weber** (B.S. 1991, M.S. 1993, Vice President, Marc-IV Consulting)

develops a teaching, mentoring and research program designed to support and facilitate the advancement of entrepreneurial endeavors in the field of life sciences.

- ▶ **Breimyer Seminar:** This annual seminar for discussing developing areas of economics is named and endowed in honor of **Harold F. Breimyer**, Professor of Agricultural Economics and Extension Economist. Breimyer started the seminars in the 1970s; tough topics facing agriculture and bold and diverse solutions were his specialty and that focus continues to this day.

IMPACT

Extension through the years

Agricultural economics extension work includes educational programs in farm management, marketing and utilization of agricultural products. The department's *extension programs* are well known for developing new offerings as the need arises. Technology has had a large part in changes over the years; through the Electronic Bulletin Board more information is delivered online with fewer extension agents.

Eighteen regional *AgBusiness Extension Specialists* are an important link between the department and Missouri's agricultural industry. Programs are intensely focused and more interdisciplinary, including the work of the **Commercial Agriculture Team**, which specializes in fields such as crops, beef and dairy. Extension teams organize the three-day **Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference**, **Management Intensive Dairy program**, series of **Business/Farm Tax Schools**, **Computers on the Farm Conference** and the **Ag Lenders School** and seminar series, now in its 32nd year.

The department's *Graduate Institute for*

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“It is difficult to quantify in one succinct statement the value of an Ag Econ degree from MU's CAFNR. For some of us, the College was not even CAFNR nor was the Ag Econ department the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department when we graduated. Perhaps that is the tribute which is owed to the Department and its College. Being visionary and preparing students for the future is the bedrock mission of any institution of higher learning. After almost 40 years in the agricultural business sector, I remain convinced that the Department and College continue to fulfill that mission.”

— **Daryl Oldvader** (B.S. 1972, CEO of FCS Financial)

Cooperative Leadership (GICL) is a global, research-based executive education center. Recognized for leading-edge thinking about cooperatives, GICL recently celebrated its 40th year, with more than 1,800 alumni.

Student opportunities

Students in the department receive a unique combination of quantitative and analytical skills in the classroom and beyond:

- ▶ Students in the Ag Econ Club annually visit the **Chicago Board of Trade**, through the support of key graduate and donor **Steve Newcom**.
- ▶ **Returning to the Farm** course prepares students who want to go back to the family farm. The class has been offered for close to two decades, supporting more than 150 undergraduates.
- ▶ The department has *numerous scholarships* dedicated to its students. **Paul and Dolores Hanna** have created a planned gift to support the Jerry West

Scholarship. Dolores is the widow of Dr. West, a beloved faculty member in the department.

- ▶ **Innovative scholar programs** introduce students to the agribusiness community and professional requirements of this field:
 - The **John Brown Scholars Program** was initiated in 1983 by John E. Brown, a prominent St. Louis agribusinessman. Since then, the program has allowed more than 475 upperclass students to spend a week visiting and learning from St. Louis agribusinesses. Read more at cafnr.missouri.edu/academics/brown-scholars
 - The **Dickinson Scholars Program** provides an opportunity for College sophomores to become acquainted with the Kansas City agribusiness community. Nearly 300 students have participated over the years. The program is funded by an endowment established by the late Gary Dickinson. For more information, go to cafnr.missouri.edu/academics/dickinson-scholars

CONNECTIONS

Give back

- ▶ **Contribute to the Centennial campaign** and include the department in your annual contribution to Mizzou!
- ▶ **Sponsor student and faculty tours** like the John Brown Scholars, trip to the Kansas City Board of Trade, and Midwest agriculture companies!



Get involved

- ▶ 'Like' us on Facebook (see a slide show of photos from our Centennial Open House!)
- ▶ **Become a mentor** for current students or a **guest speaker** for classes and student organizations!
- ▶ **Join us** for departmental and alumni events! Share your email address to stay up-to-date on upcoming events.
- ▶ Join the **Mizzou Alumni Association**, or renew your membership today!



Be an advocate

- ▶ **Tell a friend, a corporate recruiter or your local legislator** about the great things the department does for students and Missouri farmers!
- ▶ **Share with an outstanding prospective student** the great opportunities an agricultural economics and agribusiness degree provides!
- ▶ **Be a corporate contact** to connect graduates to your company!

We want to hear from you! Visit dass.missouri.edu/agecon/alumni