

The Iowa Beta Chapter of
Gamma Sigma Delta
The Honor Society of Agriculture



2021 Initiation & Award
Ceremony



The objectives of the Iowa Beta Chapter of the Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, are to encourage a high degree of excellence in the practice of agricultural pursuits and to encourage high standards of scholarship in all branches of agricultural science and education.

Welcome to the 2021 Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Initiation & Awards Presentation

- ▶ My name is Jennie Savits, and I am a Field Specialist in Enology for the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute and President of the Iowa Beta Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, **the** Honor Society of Agriculture. Gamma Sigma Delta is a national honor society. Our Chapter, the Iowa Beta Chapter, was formed in 1907 and is one of the oldest chapters in the country.
- ▶ As President, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our chapter's Annual Initiation & Awards Presentation. This ceremony is a highlight of each spring semester because we honor some of the brightest and most talented students at Iowa State University - many of whom will become leaders in agriculture in the years ahead. It is also an opportunity to recognize ISU faculty, staff, and alumni for their significant contributions to agriculture.





Student Awards

The Outstanding Sophomore and Outstanding Senior Awards are given to the students who have earned the highest Iowa State University grade point average in the sophomore and senior class. If two or more students have earned the same grade point average, the award is given to the student who has earned the highest number of credits at Iowa State University.



Sophomore Scholarship



Allie Wicklund

Animal Science

Andover, MN



Senior Scholarship



Payton Leigh Phelps

Animal Science

Biology

Pella, IA



Mission Awards

The Mission Awards are some of the highest awards given by our local Gamma Sigma Delta chapter. Nominations are accepted in four categories – teaching, extension, research, and international agriculture. These annual awards recognize faculty in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences who have made exceptional contributions in helping Iowa State University achieve its mission in the areas of teaching, extension, research, and international agriculture.



Research



Nicholas Gabler

Professor

Animal Science



Research

Dr. Nicolas Gabler is a Full Professor in Animal Science at Iowa State University. He obtained his Bachelors of Agricultural Science and Ph.D. from LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia. He has completed postdoctoral research at both Purdue and Iowa State Universities, before joining the Animal Science Department at ISU in 2008 as an assistant professor in fundamental swine nutrition and metabolism. Presently Dr. Gabler has an active and diverse research program that focuses on understanding and improving swine feed efficiency, nutrition by health, lean tissue accretion and intestinal physiology of pigs. He utilized both basic and applied, cellular and whole animal approaches. To date, Dr. Gabler has graduated six M.S. students and five Ph.D. students from his program. He has been active as an author and co-author and has published over 85 peer-reviewed journal articles and review papers. Further, he has presented his research at regional, national, and international meetings. His research is making important scientific contributions to swine production and science.

Nicholas Gabler



Teaching



Elisabeth Huff Lonergan

Professor

Animal Science



Teaching

Dr. Elisabeth Huff Lonergan demonstrates service to the teaching mission at Iowa State University through impactful work as an educator, researcher, and servant to her colleagues. She is an outstanding instructor of fundamental meat science and muscle biology courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. She has provided significant foresight in providing student career opportunities by developing and teaching a pet foods course for students interested in companion animals and meat products. She has had a significant impact on the department's quality of instruction with her development and implementation of a comprehensive peer evaluation system for all teaching faculty in the department. Her innovation has resulted in high impact practices in student learning, unique study abroad opportunities, experiential learning, and one of a kind integrated coursework. Moreover, her leadership and service in curriculum development and faculty efforts for continuous improvement in teaching extends the impact of her innovation.

Elisabeth Huff Lonergan



International



Dong Ahn

Professor

Animal Science



International

Dr. Ahn joined ISU in 1994 and has been working in the Animal Science Department over the past 26 years. He has a very long history on international activities/ accomplishments, including supervising postdocs and visiting scholars from foreign countries, developing grant proposals and conducting collaborative research with foreign faculty members or groups, teaching various courses for graduate as well as undergraduate students in foreign countries, evaluation of tenure and promotions of foreign faculty members, evaluation of graduate student's thesis, serving as a foreign committee member for PhD students, evaluation of grants for foreign funding agencies, and presenting at various international conferences or university activities as an invited speaker. He also helped foreign visitors to Iowa understand U.S. and Iowa agriculture better, which produced positive impacts for the university and US industry. All his international activities at various levels indicate that his service at international organizations is well-rounded and commendable.

Dong Ahn



Extension



Peggy Auwerda

Associate Professor
Animal Science

Extension



Dr. Peggy Auwerda works in the Department of Animal Science as the Extension and Outreach Equine Specialist. Dr. Auwerda has effectively delivered important information about horses to youth and adults across Iowa, as part of her Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. Programs coordinated include Women Managing Horses, Iowa Horse Judges Certification, Master Equine Manager, and 4-H and Youth Equine Extravaganza. She strives to educate adults and youth through “engaged scholarship” by managing an Equine Science website and Facebook page, and writing a monthly online newsletter, Grazing News. Dr. Auwerda has provided equine-interested students with professional development and outreach opportunities and integrates horse owners into teaching activities. These practical experiences train current and future leaders for the equine industry.

Peggy Auwerda



Alumni Award of Merit and the Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award

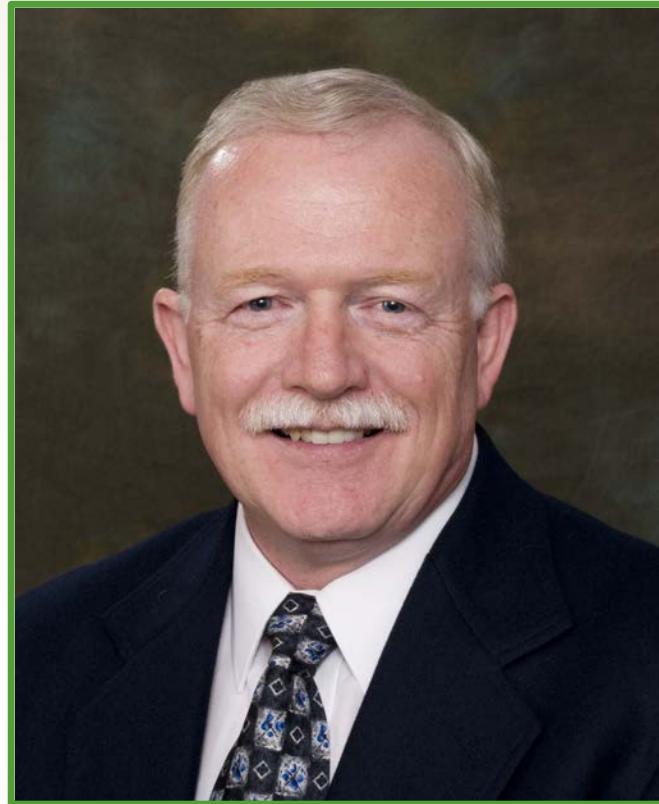
- ▶ In addition to the Mission Awards, Gamma Sigma Delta also recognizes outstanding accomplishments through the Alumni Award of Merit and the Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award.



Alumni Award of Merit

The **Alumni Award of Merit**, is given to an alumnus of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences who has distinguished themselves in contributing to the field of agriculture in an exceptional way. These activities may be through service, leadership, honors and awards, or general excellence.

This year's recipient is Marcus E. Kehrli, Jr., Retired Director USDA National Animal Disease Center.



Marcus E. Kehrli, Jr.

Retired Director

USDA National Animal Disease Center



Alumni Award of Merit

Dr. Marcus E. Kehrli, Jr is an internationally recognized animal health leader. He has received numerous awards for a lifetime of distinctive animal health research impact, mentoring, service, and technology transfers that benefited livestock producers worldwide and contributed to global food security. To date, he has authored or co-authored 166 publications in refereed scientific journals, numerous book chapters and monographs, and currently holds 4 U.S. Patents. Dr. Kehrli's personal and team leadership research has had a multibillion-dollar impact on animal health globally. His pioneering research on immune suppression in cows at calving time led to the first and only commercial, FDA-approved biotherapeutic for use in livestock. Dr. Kehrli has mentored over 20 graduate students, several postdoctoral research associates and foreign visiting scientists. He has served on various committees for the American Dairy Science Association, the National Mastitis Council, U.S. Animal Health Association, and the National Pork Board.

Marcus E. Kehrli, Jr.



Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture

The **Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture Award**. This award recognizes an outstanding individual for distinguished achievement in agriculture or related science over a sustained period of time. A permanent plaque in Curtiss Hall bears the name of each recipient.

This year's recipient is Donald H Beermann, Emeritus Chair, Animal Science.



Donald H. Beerermann

Emeritus Chair
Animal Science



Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture

Dr. Don Beermann's achievements in agriculture span 45 years, starting as a grad student and postdoc at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Don held joint faculty 50% research and 50% teaching appointments in Animal Science and Food Science for 21 years at Cornell University. He served 9 years as Animal Science Department Head, 5 years as Director of the Institutional Animal Care program, and one year as interim Associate Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Don served as chair of the ISU Department of Animal Science for 5 years and retired in 2020. He considers hiring 15 faculty at UNL and 15 faculty at ISU his most important achievements, helping shape the future of those departments. He led multimillion dollar animal research facility renovation projects at UNL and assisted with gaining approval and design of new poultry, swine and feed mill facilities at ISU.

Donald H. Beermann



Faculty, Staff and Alumni Membership

Faculty and staff members at Iowa State University are eligible for Gamma Sigma Delta initiation if they have worked in agriculture or related sciences for at least three years and have shown exceptional ability as teachers, extension workers, researchers, or in international agriculture. No more than 10 faculty/staff members may be elected to Gamma Sigma Delta membership in any one year.

Welcome to Gamma Sigma Delta.



Virginia Morgan Hanson

Assistant Teaching Professor
Agricultural Education & Studies



Benjamin B. Chamberlain

Academic Advisor

Agricultural Education & Studies



Skyler P. Rinker

Assistant Teaching Professor
James and Clare Frevert Ag 450 Professorship
Agricultural Education & Studies



Karl Kerns

Adjunct Assistant Professor & Lecturer
Animal Science

Graduate and Veterinary Medicine Students



- The graduate students and veterinary medicine students at Iowa State University nominees for membership were selected from among all graduate students in the various agricultural curricula at ISU. They have all shown outstanding ability in advanced study of agriculture. Additionally, students in allied curricula such as Journalism, Sociology, Statistics, Microbiology, and Genetics can be nominated if they emphasize agricultural science in their studies and have compiled an outstanding record at Iowa State University.
- To be eligible, the students must have completed at least 14 semester credits in the Graduate College of Iowa State University and must have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or above.



Francis Akitwine

Agronomy

Kabale, Uganda



Celine Beggs

Agricultural and Life Sciences Education

Extension Education

Clearfield, IA



Luis Bentancor Bossio

Agronomy and Forestry
Soil Science

Cuchilla Pereira, Montevideo, Uruguay



Jeff Bymark

Biomedical Science

Baxter, MN

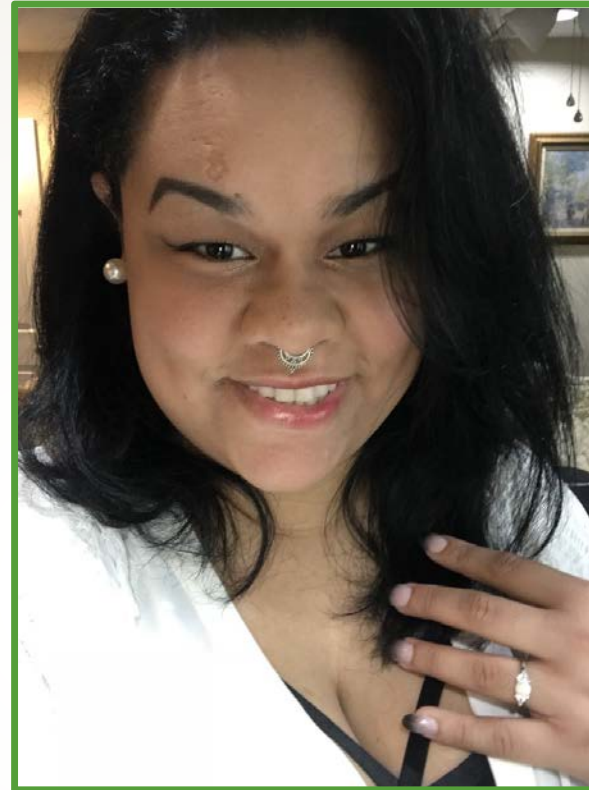


Laura Elizabeth Tibbs Cortes

Genetics

Statistics

Alden, IA



Erica Daniel

Agronomy

Dallas, TX



Ashley Dettmann

Agronomy

Welch, MN



Tonia S. Durand

Microbiology

Food Safety

Roseau, Dominica



Dustin Lane Ehret

Agronomy

Soil Science

Deep River, IA



Brianna D. Griffin

Plant Biology
Plant Pathology
Ellenton, FL



Priyanka Gupta

Industrial and Agricultural Technology

New Delhi, India



Hailey A. Holder

Landscape Architecture

Byron, IL



Samuel Ikendi

Agricultural and Life Sciences Education

Ames, IA

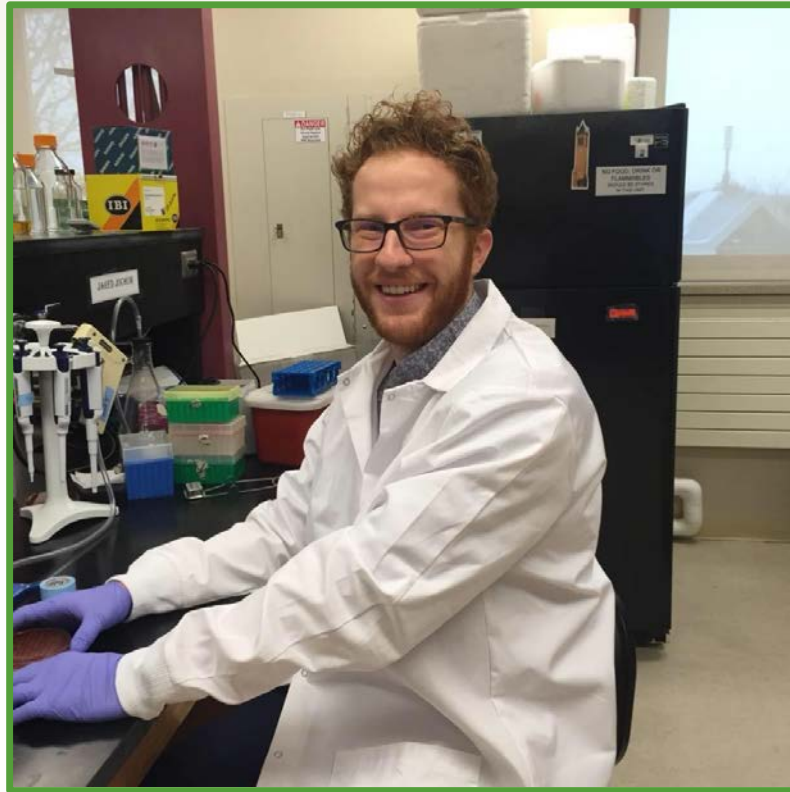


Imaobong E. Inyang

Animal Science

Toxicology

Uyo, Akwa Ibom, Nigeria



Jared Jochum

Microbiology

Sioux City, IA



Abigail L. Kropf

Biology

Entomology

Kimballton, IA



Chih-Chun Kuo

Food Science

Taipei City, Taiwan (ROC)



Shillah Kwikiiriza

Horticulture

Bushenyi, Uganda



John B. McCulloch

Entomology

Montesano, WA



Nur Ashiqin Binti Mohd Ridzuan Nirmal

Toxicology

Environmental Toxicology

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Chris Morris

Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Sociology

Austin, TX



Alexander N. Mullins

Environmental Science

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

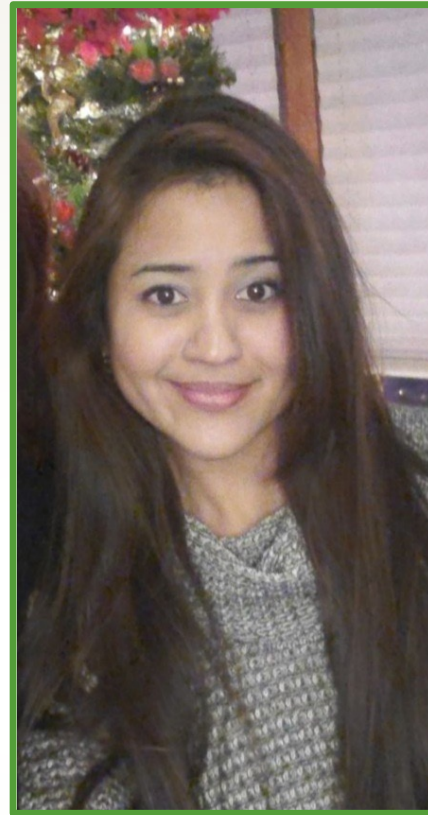
Wiley, CO



Michael Patrick Murphy

Genetics

Cheverly, MD



Siu-Yin Ideal NG Virella

Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary Preventive Medicine

San Juan, Puerto Rico



Oyetunji Steven Olaniba

Industrial and Agricultural Technology

Mushin, Lagos, Nigeria



Onyekachukwu Henry Osemeke

Veterinary Medicine

Onicha-ugbo, Delta State, Nigeria



Paul I. Otyama

Genetics

Statistics

Kampala, Uganda



Chinwendu F. Ozoh

Food Science

Ames, IA



Benjamin W. Pease

Horticulture

Turfgrass



Natalie Josephine Perez

Biomedical Sciences

Carlisle, IA



Mindy J. Powell

Veterinary Diagnostic and Production
Animal Medicine

Statistics

Webster City, IA



Blake Remmert

Agronomy

St. Rose, IL



Victor Sanfins Cecon

Food Science

Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil



Cristina M. Santana Maldonado

Toxicology

Trujillo Alto, Puerto Rico



Sharu Paul Sharma

Genetics

Mansa, Punjab, India



Landen Tetil

Agricultural and Life Sciences Education

Marquette, MI



Kasey VandenBosch

Biomedical Science



Maddison Lynn Wiersema

Animal Science

Animal Physiology

Fulton, IL



Nicholas E. Wilmoth

Seed Technology and Business

Elkin, NC



Victoria C. Wilson

Animal Science

St. Charles, MO



Lu Yen

Veterinary Medicine

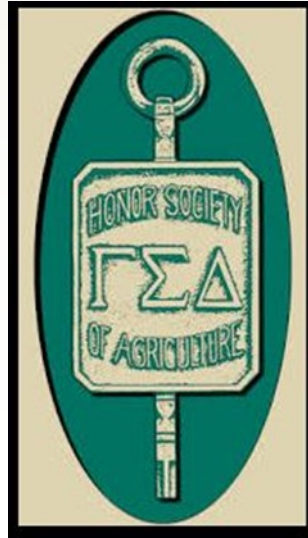
Preventive Medicine

Taichung, Taiwan

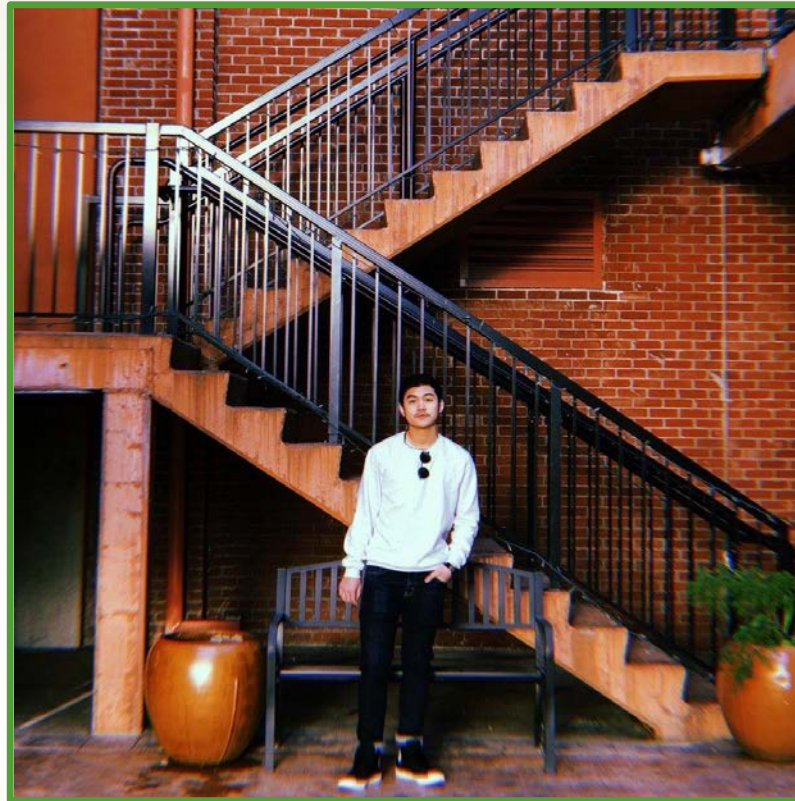
Undergraduate Student Initiates



- ▶ To be eligible, the student must be a junior or senior in one of the several curricula administered by the College of Agriculture or be studying a subject closely aligned with agriculture in an appropriate department in some other college of the university, such as students in Agricultural Engineering.
- ▶ To be eligible for membership, students must:
 - ▶ Have earned an all-college average of at least 3.00 - including all credits transferred to Iowa State University; and Seniors must rank in the top 15% of their class, and juniors must rank in the top 5% in their class.
 - ▶ Candidates must have attended Iowa State University for at least two academic semesters at the time of election to membership.
 - ▶ Students must not only be students who show high scholarship, but also have evidence of high moral character.



Seniors



Adriel Abhimanyu

Culinary Food Science

Jakarta, Indonesia



Thomas Demers

Agricultural Systems Technology

Machine Systems

Storm Lake, IA



Renee DeVore

Global Resource Systems

Environmental Studies

Sustainability

Des Moines, IA



Marta Grant

Agricultural Business and Spanish

Animal Science

Preston, IA



Allen Keane

Agricultural Engineering
Power and Machinery Option

Panama, IA



BreAnna McCartan

Animal Science

General Business

West Des Moines, IA



Jolean McClane

Agronomy

Crop Physiology, Alternative Cropping Systems,
Sustainability

Sidney, IA



John F. Temple

Industrial Technology

Occupational Safety

Johnston, IA



Lauren Tidgren

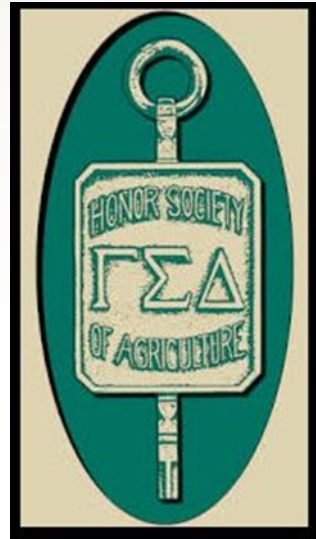
Animal Science

Carroll, IA



Karen T. Vandervort

Food Science
Middleville, MI



Juniors



Grace A. Christensen

Animal Science
Pre-Veterinary Option
Audubon, IA



Chelsea Larsen

Animal Science

Learning and Leadership Sciences

Guthrie Center, IA



Katrina Lee

Animal Science

Kearney, MO



Elise J. Patton

Animal Science and Animal Ecology

Psychology

Cedar Falls, IA



Emily Springer

Animal Science

Genetics

Kansasville, WI



2020-2021 Chapter Officers

President	Jennifer Savits
Vice President	Skyler Rinker
Secretary/Treasurer	Terri Boylston
Historian	Cynthia Haynes
Past President	Elizabeth Bobeck
Chair, Awards Committee	Don Beitz
Chair, Membership Committee	Barb Clawson

Congratulations to:

- ▶ The 2021 award winners of the Iowa Beta Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta.
- ▶ Faculty and Staff new members.
- ▶ Graduate, Veterinary Medicine, and undergraduate students obtaining membership into Gamma Sigma Delta.

