

## Coleman Forst, Grant Frasier, Abigail Friesen, Tyler Marr, Michael McKinney, Carlee Overturf, Max Roby and Chris Weber Receive 2017 CHS Scholars Awards

October 18, 2017 (MANHATTAN, Kan.) – Coleman Forst of Marysville, Kansas, a senior in agricultural economics and finance; Grant Frasier of Sharon Springs, Kansas, a junior in agronomy; Abigail Friesen of Colby, Kansas, a senior in agricultural economics; Tyler Marr of Formoso, Kansas, a senior in agronomy; Michael McKinney of McPherson, Kansas, a junior in Feed Science and Management; Carlee Overturf of Johnson, Kansas, a senior in agribusiness; Max Roby of St. Louis, Missouri, a senior in agribusiness; and Chris Weber of Hoxie, Kansas, a senior in agronomy, have each been awarded a CHS Scholars Award through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Coleman Forst is an active member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity having held positions as Scholarship Chair and Vice President. He serves as a College of Agriculture Ambassador and is a student fellow with the Center for Risk Management Education and Research. Coleman participated in a study-abroad experience in Ireland and completed an internship with Skyland Grain, LLC. Upon his May 2018 graduation, Coleman hopes to pursue a career in commodity trading or agricultural finance. The Forst family is affiliated with the following cooperative: Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Inc. Additionally, Coleman's father worked for farmer-owned cooperatives for many years.

Grant Frasier is an active member of the FarmHouse Fraternity. He serves on the College of Agriculture Student Council Executive Board and is on the leadership team for STUMO. He spent two summers in STUMO's summer project, Kaleo, initially as a participant and as a group leader in his second year. Grant is planning to complete school in three and a half years and would like to work for a crop consulting firm upon graduation in December 2018. The Frasier family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Farm Credit of Western Kansas, Midwest Energy and United Plains Ag.

Abigail Friesen is a 9<sup>th</sup> generation farmer and has worked on the family farm since she was four years old. She is a member of the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Club and actively serves in leadership roles in the Wheat State Agronomy Club. Abigail is an ambassador for the Department of Agronomy and was selected as a Silver Key Sophomore Honorary member. She works as an undergraduate student researcher in the weeds research lab, housed in the Agronomy Department, and has interned with The Scoular Company. In addition, Abigail has participated in a Cropping Systems study abroad trip to Costa Rica. She plans to graduate in May 2018 with the hopes of becoming a grain merchandiser or returning to manage her family's farm. The Friesen family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Farm Credit of Western Kansas Cooperative, Frontier Ag, Inc., Hi-Plains Cooperative Association, Midwest Energy, Inc. and United Plains Ag.

Tyler Marr is a member of the Wheat State Agronomy Club, KSU Collegiate Cattleman's Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau and Collegiate FFA. He is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is on the K-State Crops Judging Team. Tyler recently completed an internship with Farmway Co-op (now CVA) in Beloit, Kansas. Upon his May 2018 graduation, Tyler plans to return to Jewell County to continue working on the family farm and hopes to work for a local cooperative as an agronomist. The Marr family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Aurora Cooperative, CVA, Farmway Credit Union, Midway Co-op, Inc., Randall Farmers Co-op Union and Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative. In addition, Tyler's father serves on the board for the Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative.

Michael McKinney is active member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity having served in several leadership roles. He is a College of Agriculture Ambassador and a member of the Feed Sciences Club. He achieved Eagle Scout status with the Boy Scouts of America and was selected to participate in the Agriculture Future of America Animal Institute. Michael completed a feed salesman internship with MKC. He anticipates graduating in May 2019 and hopes to have a career in feed sales or livestock nutrition with an emphasis towards ruminant animals. The McKinney family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: McPherson Co-op Credit Union and MKC. Michael's father is an employee of MKC.

Carlee Overturf is a member of the Sigma Alpha Professional Agriculture Sorority, K-State Collegiate Cattlewomen and Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Club. She is a student worker in the plant pathology department and has interned with Skyland Grain, LLC, and American AgCredit. Upon graduation in May 2018, Carlee plans to pursue a career in agricultural finance. The Overturf family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: American AgCredit, Pioneer Communications and Skyland Grain, LLC. Carlee's father is an employee of Skyland Grain, LLC.

Max Roby has served as a K-State Agriculture Ambassador, participated in Kaleo and held a KOV Internship. He works as a Resident Assistant at Haymaker Hall, where he also serves as Sustainability Liaison. Max spent the summer in Burkina Faso, Africa, working with farmers on sustainability. Upon graduation in May 2018, he is open to working in sales globally to bring product to a new market base. The Roby family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: American Eagle Credit Union and Crawford Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Chris Weber is actively involved in Wheat State Agronomy Club and participates on the K-State soil judging and NACTA crops judging teams. He works as a student assistant for the Soybean Breeding Project at K-State and as a greenhouse manager. Chris anticipates a May 2018 graduation and hopes to work as a crop scout and assist in managing the family farm. The Weber family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Frontier Ag and Western Cooperative Electric Association.

“The CHS Scholars Awards are one way the CHS Foundation is giving back to future agricultural leaders at Kansas State University,” states Professor Brian Briggeman, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. The scholarship has awarded over \$138,000 in scholarships since its establishment with Kansas State University in 2006.

To be eligible for the scholarship, the students must be U.S. or Canadian citizens or legal residents properly enrolled as a sophomore, junior or senior during the current academic year majoring in an agriculture-related undergraduate program or STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) degree program. Students can reapply annually. Preference is given to those students who demonstrate academic ability and exhibit leadership qualities through the university, community or industry.

The awarding of the CHS Scholars Awards is coordinated through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. “Additional contributions by those who want to support the purposes of cooperative scholarships are welcome,” Dr. Briggeman said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/ACCC” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Department of Agricultural Economics, 305 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. 66506.

### **About CHS Foundation**

The CHS Foundation is funded by charitable gifts from CHS Inc., the nation’s leading farmer-owned cooperative and a global energy, grains and foods company. As a part of the CHS stewardship focus, the CHS Foundation supports organizations that develop future leaders for agriculture through education and leadership programs. Learn more at [chsinc.com/stewardship](http://chsinc.com/stewardship).

### **About the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center**

The ACCC provides research-based information, education and assistance to people with and interested in cooperative businesses, including cooperative members, directors, managers and employees. The Center also works with students and faculty at educational institutions, the general public and public officials as well as owners, directors, managers and employees of agribusinesses. Further information can be obtained about this scholarship or about establishing additional scholarships by contacting Brian Briggeman at the same address or e-mailing, [bbrigg@ksu.edu](mailto:bbrigg@ksu.edu).

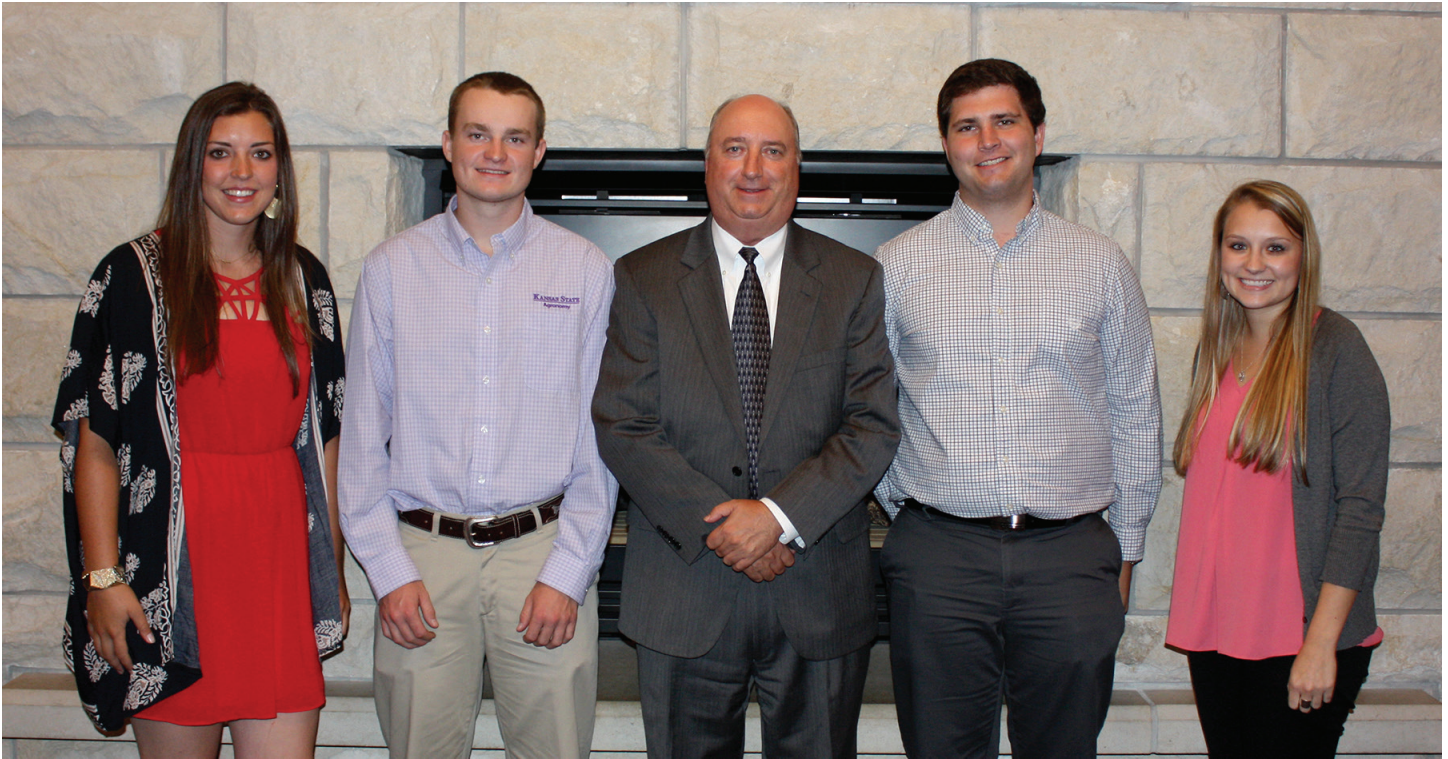


Photo caption is as follows: (left to right) Abigail Friesen, Tyler Marr, Dave Lemke - Market Development Manager of CHS, Inc., Coleman Forst and Carlee Overturf at the K-State Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, September 29, 2017.

Not pictured: Grant Frasier, Michael McKinney, Max Roby and Chris Weber