



Midwest Poultry Consortium

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2021 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Elizabeth Bobeck of Iowa State University (ISU) was the recipient of Midwest Poultry Consortium's 2021 Outstanding Service Award. This award is given to an individual who exemplifies outstanding service to the Consortium and the poultry industry. Liz studied under Dr. Mark Cook and Dr. Mike Persia, past COE faculty members who were very influential in the program's success. She has taken on a major role in the COE program, like her mentors, initially serving as a Poultry Nutrition faculty member. In COE's move to ISU, Liz became the Poultry Nutrition course coordinator and the COE on-site coordinator.

Dr. Bobeck, the 20th recipient, joins past winners: Greg Fraley, *Purdue University* ('20); Mick Fulton, *Michigan State University* ('19); Ken Koelkebeck, *University of Illinois* ('18); Steve Jurek, *GNP* ('17); Mark Richards, *University of Wisconsin* ('16); Mike Lilburn, *The Ohio State University* ('15); Dan Schaefer, *University of Wisconsin* ('14); Patricia Hester, *Purdue University* ('13); Mark Cook, *University of Wisconsin* ('12); Hongwei Xin, *Iowa State University* ('11); Bernie Wentworth, *University of Wisconsin* ('10); Lou Arrington, *WI Poultry & Egg Association* ('09); Senator Tom Harkin ('08); Wendy Wintersteen, *Iowa State University* ('07); Dennis Casey, *Hy-Line North America* ('06); Sue Lamont, *Iowa State University* ('05); Ron Kean, *University of Wisconsin* ('04); Bob Sparboe, *Sparboe Companies* ('03); and Congressman Tom Latham ('02).



Elizabeth Bobeck

RESEARCH LEGISLATION

Progress Made Towards Federally Funded Research Program. MPC worked diligently with Congressional offices in an effort to encourage funding for the *Laying Hen and Turkey Research Program (LHTRP)*. In April, MPC staff and industry members emphasized to lawmakers the need for public research funding for the LHTRP which is intended to "address the priority research needs of the poultry industry for improving efficiency and sustainability of production through integrated, collaborative research." Previously, MPC was successful in inserting authorizing language in the 2018 Farm Bill, creating the LHTRP. This authorizing language provides the mechanism for appropriators to eventually fund LHTRP.

Upon passage of the Senate Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill of 2022, MPC was pleased to learn the LHTRP was marked for funding at \$1,000,000. LHTRP language read: ... research into laying hens and turkeys holds the potential to improve the efficiency and sustainability of laying hen and turkey production through integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer. The Committee recommendation includes \$1,000,000 to support research into laying hen and turkey disease prevention, antimicrobial resistance, nutrition, gut health, and alternative housing systems under extreme weather conditions, all which hold the potential to advance the laying hen and turkey industry.

While Senate passage of this bill represents a huge first step in the long and difficult process to re-establish public research funding, more work remains. The bill needs to survive conference committee negotiations and be signed by the President before it comes to fruition.

COE HOST UNIVERSITIES

University of Minnesota to Host 2022 COE in Rotation with ISU. After 24 years on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the MPC Board of Directors took action to create a pilot program rotating the Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship Program (COE) between Iowa State University (ISU) and University of Minnesota (UMN). ISU hosted in 2020 and 2021. This past year, MPC was in negotiations with UMN for COE's move to its campus in 2022. This will begin the rotation with UMN hosting in even years and ISU in odd years. Host universities play a critical role in the success of COE being able to educate the future of the poultry industry. We are grateful to ISU and UMN for collaborating with MPC.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

MPC Holds Annual Meeting. MPC held its 2021 Annual Meeting via Zoom on Monday, March 29. Guest speakers featured Anup Johny (University of Minnesota) and Zachary Simons (Nova-Tech Engineering). Dr. Johny discussed the faculty member perspective on the benefits of the COE Program, how the COE plays a critical role in feeding a growing population by creating a well-trained workforce. Simons, a 2017 COE graduate, gave the COE student testimonial regarding his experience as a COE participant and the benefits it has had on his professional career. Chair Curtis Novak accepted motions to approve the Secretary's, Treasurer's, and Nominating Committee reports. Board seats were filled by: Lisa Beohm, *Henning Companies* (Allied); Brian Joyer, *Hy-Line North America* (Egg); Beth Schnell, *Sparboe Farms* (Egg); Robin Kopel, *Jennie-O Turkey Store* (Turkey); Curtis Novak, *Purina Animal Nutrition* (Turkey).

COE Students, Faculty, & Industry Gather for Banquet & Awards Ceremony. MPC held its 2021 COE Banquet and Awards Ceremony to honor its 30-member class (pictured), marking the end of its 26th year. COE, an intense poultry science curriculum held over the course of two consecutive summers, is intended to better prepare students for employment within the poultry industry upon graduation. For more than a quarter-century the COE has provided students with the opportunity to earn up to 18 credits in poultry science, participate in internship opportunities within the industry, and develop a lifelong industry network of peers on which to rely over the course of their poultry careers.



2020-2021 Sponsors

Adiseo

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Aviagen Turkeys

Best Veterinary Solutions

Big Dutchman

Boehringer Ingelheim

Bosma Poultry

Butterfield Foods

Cal-Maine Foods

Cargill/Provimi

Case Farms

Center Fresh Group

Centrum Valley Farms

Centurion Poultry/PLG

CEVA Animal Health

Chore-Time, Egg Prod. Sys.

Cobb-Vantress

Compeer Financial

Cooper Farms

Creighton Brothers

Daybreak Foods

Diamond V

DSM Nutritional Products

Egg Innovations

Elanco Animal Health

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Farmers Hen House

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Hidden Villa Ranch/NestFresh

Huvepharma

Hy-Line North America

ILC Resources

Indiana State Poultry Assn.

Iowa Area Development Group

Iowa Cage Free

Iowa Egg Council

Iowa Turkey Federation

IsoNova

Jamesway Chick Master Incubator (JCMI)

Jennie-O Turkey Store

Jones-Hamilton

Kemin Animal Nutrition & Health

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In addition to honoring students and faculty, the Banquet gave students the opportunity to visit with industry representatives about career paths within the industry. The awards ceremony recognized Ayliffe Allen as the most dedicated student (*Ducks in a Row Award*), Russell Cheney as class clown (*Yolkster Award*), and Heather Snow as the most intelligent student (*Egghead Award*). Faculty members recognized with the coveted *Mark Cook Pullet-zer Prize* were Michael Cressman, *The Ohio State University* (SSI) and Geoffrey Lossie, *Purdue University* (SSII). Students also nominated: Elizabeth Bobeck (ISU), Dianna Bourassa (Auburn), James Dickson (ISU), Greg Fraley (PU), Anup Johny (UMN), Ken Koelkebeck (UI), Dawn Koltes (ISU), and Carl Parsons (UI). Awards are voted on by students. 2021 graduates: Emily Benton (OSU), Abigel Jarvis (MU), Adam Ripplinger (NDSU), Liliana Rodriguez (UF), Asha Scheideler (UNL), Brady Trimble (KSU), and Madison Willkomm (ISU).

Banquet Sponsors: Alltech; Fremont Farms of Iowa; Henning Companies; Hy-Line NA; Life-Science Innovations; Naturally Recycled Proteins; Purina Animal Nutrition; Rembrandt Foods; Sonstegard Foods; Sparboe Farms; VALO BioMedia; and West Liberty Foods.

2021 COE – SCHOLARSHIPS, INDUSTRY VIEWS, FACULTY, LEADERSHIP, & INTERNSHIPS

Scholarship Selection. Thirty students participated in the 2021 COE program, representing all 13 MPC member states. Full scholarships were awarded to 22 students and partial scholarships to 8 students.

SUMMER SESSION I

Ayliffe Allen - *Michigan State University*
Russell Cheney - *The Ohio State University*
Keyanna Clemons - *Kansas State University*
Julia Heller - *University of Illinois*
Rachel Herschman - *Iowa State University*
Rebecca Ingle - *Iowa State University*
Clare Klein - *South Dakota State University*
Julie McNally - *The Ohio State University*
Nicole Pickard - *The Ohio State University*
Mikayla Schlosser - *University of Minnesota*
Kiana Smutzler - *Iowa State University*
Heather Snow - *University of Missouri*
Lauren Sroda - *University of Wisconsin-Madison*
Anne Troyer - *Purdue University*
Paige Williams - *University of Missouri*

SUMMER SESSION II

Emily Benton - *The Ohio State University*
Lillie Decker - *Iowa State University*
Quinn Dubinski - *University of Missouri*
Alexis Hakizimana - *University of Nebraska*
Cole Hersom - *University of Florida*
Abigel Jarvis - *University of Missouri*
Samantha LeBlanc - *Kansas State University*
Melliandra Moffat - *Purdue University*
Adam Ripplinger - *North Dakota State University*
Katelyn Robinson - *University of Missouri*
Liliana Rodriguez - *University of Florida*
Asha Scheideler - *University of Nebraska*
Brady Trimble - *Kansas State University*
Jessica Waldron - *University of Minnesota*
Madison Willkomm - *Iowa State University*

Faculty Continue to be the Backbone of COE. A strong commitment by faculty members, who are dedicated not only to the poultry industry but to the students they educate, is the reason the poultry industry finds the COE so valuable. COE faculty commit themselves to educating the next generation of poultry industry leaders, making sure students are well-prepared to face the future challenges the poultry industry presents. The enthusiasm they bring to their work is infectious and serves to generate excitement about future employment opportunities among COE students. Very special thanks go to the following 2021 COE faculty members and guest speakers who dedicated their time and shared their expertise with COE students. The COE would not be the success it is today without their dedicated service.

SUMMER SESSION I

Poultry Products Technology

Michael Cressman, *The Ohio State University*
Dianna Bourassa, *Auburn University*
James Dickson, *Iowa State University*
Mark Richards, *University of Wisconsin*
Ethan Scheffler, *The Ohio State University*
Paige Doklovic, *The Ohio State University (Asst.)*
Michael Kaiser, *Iowa State University (Asst.)*
Steve Niebuhr, *Iowa State University (Asst.)*
Matthew Wenger, *Iowa State University (Lab Coordinator)*

Avian Physiology

Dawn Koltes, *Iowa State University*
Gregory Fraley, *Purdue University*
Zachary Williams, *Michigan State University*
Claudia DeLeon, *Iowa State University (Asst.)*

Breeder Flock & Hatchery Management

Ron Kean, *University of Wisconsin*
Sally Noll, *University of Minnesota*
Mike Wineland, *North Carolina State University*
Kayla Niel, *Hy-Line International*
Zachary Simons, *NovaTech Engineering*

Course coordinators; Guest Lecturers

ISU Lab Support

Jessica Menke, Courtney Edwards, Jason Schade

SUMMER SESSION II

Poultry Nutrition

Liz Bobeck, *Iowa State University*
Caitlin Evans, *Kansas State University*
Carl Parsons, *University of Illinois*
Kristjan Bregendahl, *Devenish Nutrition*
April Waguespack-Levy, *DSM Nutritional Products*

Avian Health

Yuko Sato, *Iowa State University*
Geoffrey Lossie, *Purdue University*
Rob Porter, *University of Minnesota*
Elycia Ahl, *Iowa Poultry Association*

Poultry Enterprise Management

Ken Koelkebeck, *University of Illinois*
Anup Kollanoor Johny, *University of Minnesota*
Steven Corbitt, *Maple Leaf Farms*
Trudy DeRemer, *MacFarlane Pheasants*
Richard Gates, *Egg Industry Center*
Kelsey Held, *Pilgrim's*
Maro Ibarburu-Blanc, *Egg Industry Center*
Jeremy Lies, *Hy-Line North America*
Cody Lucero, *Iowa Cage Free*
Beth Nelson, *MPC*
Mike Penningroth, *Henning Companies*
Brett Pickar, *Daybreak Foods*
Chelsea Russell, *MPC*
Zachary Simons, *NovaTech Engineering*

Poultry Leadership Experience (PLE). Beth Nelson (MPC), Chelsea Russell (MPC), and Zachary Simons (NovaTech Engineering) taught PLE, a three-day session incorporated into the Poultry Enterprise Management course. Prior to the course, students took assessments to gauge personality type preferences. PLE uses interactive curriculum to present and reinforce concepts of leadership styles, emotional intelligence, communication, and teamwork.

Wednesday Night Forums. *Wednesday Night Forums*, a popular weekly event, offer students the opportunity to network with industry leaders, learn more about the poultry industry, and explore future career opportunities. Speakers: Lydia Blass, *Dannielle Drees, and *Stephanie Solberg (Rose Acre Farms); *Sydney Holtforth and Yazmin Juarez Medel (Pilgrim's); Cody Lucero (Iowa Cage Free); *Abby Scott (Jennie-O Turkey Store); and *Brian Joyer and *Jeremy Lies (Hy-Line NA). *COE graduate

Internships. Twenty-seven industry internships were awarded, allowing students to take classroom knowledge and apply it to real-world settings. Internship hosts:

Aviagen	Hy-Line North America	Michael Foods	Rembrandt Foods
Cobb-Vantress	Iowa Cage Free/Versova	Nelson Poultry	Rose Acre Farms
Cooper Farms	Jennie-O Turkey Store	Nova-Tech Engineering	Sparboe Farms
Fremont Farms of Iowa	MacFarlane Pheasants	Pilgrim's	Trillium Farm Holdings

STUDENT PLACEMENT

COE Students in the News. MPC's student tracking and database system follows COE graduates not only through their graduation, but also through full-time employment. The goal is to help place COE graduates in full-time positions within MPC member companies and to retain as many students in the industry as possible. Congratulations to the following students on their poultry employment!

Michael Carroll, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Technical Sales Support with Imogene Ingredients/Maverick Nutrition in Urbandale, IA. He graduated from University of Minnesota with a degree in Animal Science.

Taylor Deplazes, a 2019 COE graduate, accepted the position of Marketing Coordinator with Pearl Valley Farms in Pearl City, IL. She graduated from South Dakota State University in May 2021 with a degree in Agricultural Communications.

Quinn Dubinski, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of Flock Manager with Trillium Farm Holdings in La Rue, OH. She graduated from University of Missouri in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science.

Jennifer Gibbs, a 2020 COE participant, accepted the position of Operations Associate with Cargill in Dayton, VA. She graduated from Michigan State University in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science and a minor in Food Processing and Technology.

Keaton Gibbs, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Operations Associate with Tyson Foods in Sedalia, MO. He graduated from University of Missouri in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science.

Alexis Hakizimana, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of Layer Manager Trainee with Rembrandt Foods in Rembrandt, IA. He graduated from University of Nebraska in May 2021 with a degree in Integrated Science and minors in Animal Science, Leadership, and Entrepreneurship.

Cole Hersom, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of Associate Food Technologist with Pilgrim's in Greeley, CO. He graduated from University of Florida in August 2021 with a degree in Animal Science.

Sydney Holtforth, a 2020 COE participant, accepted the position of Management Trainee with Pilgrim's in Cold Spring, MN. She graduated from Michigan State University in December 2020 with a degree in Animal Science.

Gemma Isermann, a 2014 COE graduate, accepted the position of Associate Veterinarian for Aviagen in Sallisaw, OK. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Animal Sciences and a DVM from Kansas State University.

Ashley Kuhlman, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted a position in the Breeder Department of Rose Acres in Seymour, IN. She graduated from Purdue University in December 2020 with a degree in Animal Science.

Daniel Lenig, a 2020 COE participant, accepted the position of Manager Trainee with Rose Acre Farms in Brook, IN. He graduated from Purdue University in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science.

Jared Liggett, a 2020 COE participant, accepted the position of Production Supervisor with Herbruck's Poultry Ranch in Saranac, MI. He graduated from Michigan State University in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science.

Jessica Murawski, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Pullet Farm Supervisor at Farm Crest Foods in Pigeon, MI. She graduated from Michigan State University in December 2020 with a degree in Animal Science.

Madisyn Murphy, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Management Trainee - Breeders with Hy-Line North America in Warren, IN. She graduated from Purdue University in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Sciences and minors in Biology and Food and Animal Agribusiness.

Arianna Nasserjeh, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Project Manager at Pilgrim's in Greeley, CO. She graduated from Iowa State University in December 2020 with a degree in Animal Science.

Michaela Olson, a 2016 COE graduate, accepted the position of Staff Veterinarian with Wilson Veterinary Co., based out of MN. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Animal Sciences and her DVM from the University of Minnesota.

2020-2021 Sponsors cont.

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Life-Science Innovations (WPC)
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Maple Leaf Farms
Michael Foods
Michigan Allied Poultry Ind.
Michigan Turkey Producers
Midwest Livestock Systems
Midwest Poultry Federation
Miller Poultry
Moba
MPS Egg Farms
MWI Animal Health
Naturally Recycled Proteins
Nebraska Poultry Industries
Nelson Poultry Farms
North American Gamebird Assn.
Northern Pride
Nova-Tech Engineering
Ohio Poultry Association
Organic Valley
Oskaloosa Food Products
Pilgrim's
Prime Foods
Purina Animal Nutrition
Rembrandt Foods
Ridley Feed Ingredients
River View Farms
Rose Acre Farms
SANOVO Technology USA
Select Genetics
Social Chicken
Sonstegard Foods
South Dakota Poultry Ind. Assn.
Sparboe Farms
Sunrise Acres Egg Farms
Sure Conveyors
Tecumseh Poultry
Tigges, Kent
Trillium Farm Holdings
Turkey Valley Farms
United Egg Producers
University of Florida
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
VAL-CO
VALO BioMedia North America
Vaxxinova
Wabash Valley Produce
Weaver Brothers
West Liberty Foods
Wisconsin Poultry & Egg Ind. Assn.
Zoetis

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Michael Foods

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Zach Tucker - Other species
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Dana Patterson, a 2020 COE participant, accepted the position of Broiler Technician with Miller Poultry in Goshen, IN. She graduated from University of Florida – Gainesville in December 2020 with a degree in Animal Science.

Adam Ripplinger, a 2021 COE graduate, accepted the position of Live Bird Management Trainee with Rembrandt Foods in Rembrandt, IA. He graduated from North Dakota State University in June 2021 with a degree in Animal Science and a minor in Agribusiness.

Caitlyn Spencer, a 2020 COE graduate, accepted the position of Molecular Genetics Lab Technician with Hy-Line International in Dallas Center, IA. She graduated from Iowa State University in May 2021 with a degree in Animal Science and a minor in Microbiology.

Brady Trimble, a 2021 COE graduate, accepted the position of Cage Free Pullet Farm Manager with Nelson Poultry Farms in Manhattan, KS. He is studying Agribusiness and Animal Science at Kansas State University.

Congratulations to COE Students Entering Graduate or Vet School. COE students accepted into graduate programs in areas important to the poultry industry: Andrea Mendoza (*Michigan State University*) and Jordyn Samper (*Virginia Tech*).

COE students accepted into vet school: Allison Rapp (*The Ohio State University*) and Alexandra Volpi (*University of Florida*).

RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2022 COE CLASS

Recruitment activities for the 2022 COE Class consisted of career fairs, class talks, panels, and poultry club meetings, using both virtual and in-person methods to recruit for the COE program.

Career Fairs. MPC participated in three virtual and six in-person career fairs at our member schools. At universities not allowing guests, faculty willing to do student outreach was helpful in recruitment efforts. Past COE graduates assisted in the in-person career fairs, including Abigel Jarvis (COE 2019; 2021) at the University of Missouri, Taylor Zahn (COE 2018) at South Dakota State University, and Rebecca Ingle (COE 2021) at Iowa State University.

Class Visits. To maintain visibility directly in classes, MPC spoke at in-person and virtual courses. Over 40 class presentations were given. Past COE graduates assisted in class visits, including Asha Scheideler (COE 2020/2021), Taylor Zahn (COE 2018), and Lauren Sroda (COE 2021).

Poultry Clubs. MPC met virtually and in-person with poultry clubs in our member schools. In addition to MPC staff, nine past COE students shared their perspectives of the COE program during designated COE nights at club meetings. MPC also helped arrange industry speakers to visit the clubs.

Poultry Panels. MPC hosted a virtual Poultry Panel with North Dakota State University and South Dakota State University's Animal Science Departments. While the COE program was discussed, the main focus was to allow students to learn about different career options within the poultry industry. Since students were not required to attend in person, MPC also opened the event to our other member universities. Several faculty members posted the panel opportunity for their students. Over 170 students participated. Students logged in from North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, University of Illinois, University of Minnesota, and University of Missouri.

Panelists spoke on areas of processing, live production, nutrition, game bird production, and veterinary medicine and gave tips on what experiences college students should seek out to be successful in the poultry industry. They also shared information on what their jobs entailed. Panelists included: Deb Barglof, Poultry Nutrition Specialist (Rembrandt Foods); Carrie Cremers, Staff Veterinarian (Jennie-O Turkey Store); Trudy DeRemer, Flock Supervisor (MacFarlane Pheasants); Logan Hulst, Field Test Manager (Hy-Line); Clare Klein (2021 COE Participant/Pilgrims intern). All panelists were from MPC sponsor companies and DeRemer, Hulst, and Klein have gone through the COE program.

Outreach by Faculty & Students. Understanding our unique recruitment challenges in 2021, many faculty who typically allow MPC an in-person presence in their classes emailed and posted information for their students to learn about the COE program. Several of the managers of university poultry farms talked to their student workers about the value of the COE program.

Social Media Outreach. COE testimonial videos were made and posted to YouTube and social sites. One video gave a COE overview, a perspective from an MPC board member, and highlights from 2021 COE students Keyanna Clemons, Melliandra Moffat, and Lauren Sroda. The second video, a COE Graduate Testimonial, highlights the impact the COE had on Zachary Simons' career path.



Purdue's club meeting. L to R: Anne Troyer (COE 2021); Dr. Greg Fraley; Chelsea Russell; Dave Hasemann (COE 1996, MPC board); Daniel Lenig (COE 2020).