2003

Student Scholars and Leadership Recognition Banquet

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*Seasons of Success,* such an appropriate theme for CASNR Ag Week and this Student Scholars and Leaders Recognition Banquet

*Land-grant universities vital to many seasons of U.S. and Nebraska agriculture's success*

- Land-grant universities make education available to people to whom it hadn’t been available before
- Morrill Act made education available to people to whom it hadn’t been available before

*When think of the “Seasons of Success” theme, think of the seasons of each person’s life*

- some seasons enjoyable
- some seasons not so enjoyable, bring hard times; budget crisis facing state and university one of those not so enjoyable seasons for Nebraska
  - better cold with snow piled up feet high and blizzard blowing
  - fourth round of budget cuts; people’s frustration with IANR cuts shows how successful have been in past seasons carrying out land-grant university mission
  - all choices bad; those made because alternatives even worse

*Undergraduate teaching vital part of the land-grant university mission*

- first priority of the university
- doing all can in these times of budget crisis to protect undergraduate
programs as much as possible; may not be able to do entirely, but much
effort has been put into doing so as much as possible.

*Dedicated to seeing you get a quality education in CASNR, an education to
provide the academic basis for your future "Seasons of Success"

*Obviously you have had great success already, and that is recognized here
tonight.

*Look with real enthusiasm to seeing your success in the future
   - All those who contribute to it, and applaud you for it (family, friends,
     earlier teachers...)
   - CASNR’s wonderful profs who take such an interest in students, sharing
     knowledge, mentoring, advising, opening doors

*So very pleased for you, and look forward to seeing you accomplish many more
   successes in the seasons ahead—

* Congratulations

* Look forward to your future accomplishments
  in the many seasons that are yet
to come for you.