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CASNR Salute to Graduates

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CASNR SALUTE TO GRADUATES

December 15, 2006

John C. Owens

NU Vice President and IANR Harlan Vice Chancellor

We appreciate your being with us this afternoon as we celebrate the accomplishments of tomorrow's graduates from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Thank you for attending and, congratulations to the new alumni! This ceremony is rapidly becoming both a fixture and a tradition in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. As a matter of fact, it took the national "First Place Award" in a competition this year that was open to all the universities in the United States. "Paul Holton"
Dean of the
STATE

The roots of the institution which surround us here on East Campus grow especially deep. Nearly 135 years ago, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents established what then was the College of Agriculture.

“One of their reasons for establishing the College was to bring to Nebraska the benefits of the Morrill Land-Grant College Act passed by Congress in the midst of the Civil War and signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on July 2, 1862. The Morrill Act established a land-grant college in each state, where the leading object would be instruction in agriculture and the mechanical arts. These colleges grew into today’s comprehensive land-grant universities located in every state and territory.

Today, the leading object of the University of Nebraska is carried forward by the College of Agricultural Sciences ~~and~~ Natural Resources, the Agricultural Research Division, and the Extension Division which “teaches” research-based findings to constituents all across Nebraska, including 118,000 Nebraska 4-Hers. And the hub of all these activities remains today, as it was over a hundred years ago, the East Campus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

This special campus, situated within a city of a quarter million people, has a unique atmosphere which most people sense as they first enter the campus and its environs. There are open spaces, abundant trees and shrubs, pedestrian-friendly malls, and very friendly people, people who are more likely than not to say hello to strangers. Maybe it's common interests, common backgrounds, common concerns, and common pursuits that give us the sense of community that is so strong here. Many folks use the term "family" about East Campus. That's probably why so many former students stay closely connected to this College after they leave.

But I'll stop myself here and let you join me, our faculty, and our staff, as well as the graduating students, in viewing a "new video" which will vividly demonstrate the interesting, colorful, and inspirational evolution of what is today's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. This video was produced by Joel Geyer of NET Television, headquartered right here on East

Campus, and is narrated by UNL alumnus, Dick Cavett. Let's take a look at -

LARGE SCREEN T.V. - towards
graduates

AG COLLEGE DREAMS - THE REAL CORNHUSKERS.

Following the video:

At this point the first group of graduates will begin moving toward the Garden Room - they need a minute to get into place

"Ag College Dreams" reminds us that studies in agriculture ^{and} related areas grew from especially modest beginnings into the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources which, today, is a national and international powerhouse in teaching, research, and extension education. We hope you now have an even stronger sense of pride in the institution which surrounds us this afternoon.

Recognize Faculty:

guests, friends, and family MEMBERS

Those of you who attended departmental receptions prior to this ceremony probably met some of the faculty who taught your soon-to-be CASNR Graduates. Our faculty members bring teaching, research, and extension-education excellence to the College and take very seriously their mission to excite their students and encourage their desire to learn. At this time, I would like to ask all faculty members present to please stand so that we may recognize you.

Begin Salute Ceremony:

We'll now move into the recognition of tomorrow's CASNR graduates. Here with us today is the President of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Alumni Association, Sheila O'Connor. Sheila will be presenting each graduate with a one-year membership in the Alumni Association to help them maintain ties with their College family. Sheila, would you please come to the platform?

To keep this moving smoothly, we'll ask that you hold your
applause until all the students from each academic department
have been recognized.

Begin first group –

Our first honorees are those with degrees from the Department
of Agricultural Economics. Leading those graduates is the Head
of that department, Dr. Alan Baquet.

(See graduate list on separate sheet)

(At end of list) We extend our congratulations to these
graduates. Applause.

Dr. Dan Wheeler will now present graduates from the
Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and
Communication.

(See list)

Congratulations to you. Applause.

Dr. Mark Lagrimini is Head of the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture and will lead his graduates to the platform.

(See list)

"We applaud your achievements. Applause.

Dr. Donald Beermann is the Head of the Animal Science Department and leads his graduates to the platform.

(See list)

We salute the achievement of these graduates. Applause.

* Battery Break * = = = =

We'll stop for just a moment to let Dr. Gerald Horst, our photographer who is also a professor in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture, "change batteries". The individual photos being taken of our graduates are to share with you on the College web site, to download to your computer, share with family and friends via e-mail if you like and to print as you wish. I'd like to call your attention to the note in the box at the bottom

of the inside back cover of your program. You will see the College web address there. These photographs will be available to you at that address by January 5 if not before.

Like Professor Horst, many of the folks associated with this institute generously share their talents. Dr. Kay Lynn Kalkowski, our pianist today, is also the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity housemother of 60 students.

The information you're hearing about your soon-to-be CASNR graduates is self-reported by them. They are sharing some of their thoughts about their perception of their college experience as they talk about their most-significant achievements. We also get to know something about their future plans as they begin a new adventure with their UNL degree in hand.

Univ of Chicago
George Beadle — President

Ruth Lewton — Ph.D. U of Chicago

Begin second group --

Dr. John Markwell, Professor in the Biochemistry Department, will lead his graduates to the platform.

(See list)

Congratulations to you. Applause

Dr. Jack Schinstock will now bring the graduates in Diversified Agricultural Studies to the platform.

(See list)

“
Congratulations. Applause”

Dr. Mark Kuzila is Director of the School of Natural Resources and will be presenting graduates in Environmental Studies and Fisheries and Wildlife.

(See list)

“
We applaud your success. Applause.”

Dr. Rolando Flores is the Head of Food Science and Technology

7-17 - "THE DAIRY STORE"!

and will lead his graduates to the platform.

(See list)

“Congratulations to you. Applause.”

Dr. Gary Brewer is the Head of the Entomology Department and

will present his graduate, who has the distinction of being the

“first graduate of our new Insect Science major.”

(See list)

“Congratulations, Lanae. Applause.”

Dr. Ronald Yoder is the Head of Biological Systems Engineering

and will present his Mechanized Systems Management graduates.

(See list)

“Congratulations on your success. Applause.”

Dr. Steven Waller will present our “very first graduate” of the new

Plant Protection Science program. This is an interdisciplinary

degree program in multiple departments.

(See list)

“Congratulations, Mitchell. Applause.”

Dr. David Hardin, Associate Dean for Veterinary Medicine, also heads the Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and leads his graduate to the platform.

(See list)

Congratulations to you.

Conclusion:

On behalf of the IANR faculty and staff statewide, not only on the East Campus but also in the 83 UNL Extension offices serving all 93 counties, I want to extend our congratulations and best wishes for every-future-success to each of tomorrow's graduates who have been recognized this afternoon.

And, we want to thank you, as parents, families, and friends who are significant in the lives of each of these students, for your support in helping them achieve this important educational milestone.

I will now turn the podium back to Dr. Waller.