



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES

Agricultural Education, Technology & Innovation

Agricultural Education Student Teaching Showcase 2020



Preface

The Agricultural Education, Technology and Innovation Department contributes to the College's unique role as a leader in the University's land-grant mission by providing an array of programs in formal undergraduate and graduate instruction, research, and service to enable the people of Arizona, the nation, and beyond to improve the quality of their lives.

The strength of the Department is firmly grounded in its nationally and internationally recognized faculty, who in a positive and proactive manner, are committed to educational excellence and to addressing the challenges and opportunities presented by the current climate of change within the College, the University, the nation, and the world.

We engage the leadership of the future in Agricultural Education by providing a better quality of life through a knowledge base in agricultural technology management, formal and non-formal education, and leadership for our students, the people of Arizona, and society.



Robert Torres, PhD

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Department

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Elizabeth Rollins



Cooperating Center:
Buckeye Union High School

Supervising Practitioner:
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Inspiring Change,
Building a Future,
Impacting Agriculture.

Why teach agriculture?

Agriculture is based in deep rooted traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation. I was not fortunate to grow up in an agricultural community; however, with some help from FFA in high school, I was able to learn and be exposed to many traditions that agriculture and the FFA thrive on. The most impactful traditions that shaped who I am and why I am here today are the multitude of opportunities students gain access to within agriculture and the FFA, and the advisors that help students succeed in their endeavors. I had a truly unique experience with having many different agricultural educators while in high school. Having a diverse group of advisors allowed me to see some of the best qualities an agricultural educator can possess and gave me a model for what I want to strive for as an educator: someone who is supportive, nurturing, knowledgeable, organized, respectful, motivated, strong, and most importantly caring. I want to teach agriculture to continue traditions, provide new experiences and opportunities for students, and be an advisor that helps students succeed.

Education:

- Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Technology Management and Education: Teacher Certification Emphasis (Expected graduation, 2020)

Relevant Experiences:

- Independent Student Researcher for the University of Arizona School of Plant Sciences

Membership of Professional Organization:

- National Association of Agricultural Educators Student Member (2018-present)
- Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority (2016-present)
- Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Related Science Member
- University of Arizona Fish & Wildlife Society Member

Activities, Awards, and Honors:

- J.R. Cullison Scholar
- National Agriscience Preservice Teacher Program (2019)
- SAE for All Independent Study worker at the University of Arizona (2019)
- Insect Discovery Facilitator & Volunteer (2018-present)
- Student Chair for the Forestry Career Development Event (2018-2019)
- CASE AFNR, provisionally certified

Content Area Specialties:

- Animal & Veterinary Sciences
- Plant Sciences
- Natural Resources

Paige Gangloff



Cooperating Center:

Basha High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Sharon Metzger

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Why teach agriculture?

Growing up, all I ever wanted was to be a veterinarian. This dream seemed to be all I worked for and all I ever wanted to be. During my time as an FFA member I had two amazing agricultural teachers that I can easily say shaped me into the person I am proud of today. They gave me all the attention, encouragement, and confidence that I needed when I felt unnoticed, alone, and insecure. If it weren't for my advisors, there is so much that I would not have accomplished. Because of them, I began to seriously question my career path. It wasn't until I became a state officer that everything truly clicked for me. I saw myself in students and I felt that my past experiences could help them find value in themselves. I realized that THIS is what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I wanted to be a cheerleader for students who think they don't have anyone in the stands for them, a pillar of support for students who feel they don't have anyone holding them up, and a mentor for students who need the extra little push to step out of their comfort zone. I want to teach because I want to be the person for my students that my agricultural teachers were for me.

Education

- Undergraduate in Agricultural Technology Management and Education: Teaching Emphasis, Bachelors of Science (Expected graduation, May 2020)
- East Valley Institute of Technology: Veterinary Science Emphasis
 - Certificate of Completion, May 2016

Relevant Experiences

- Arizona Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom Presenter (2018)
- ENTO 407 Insect Discovery Preceptor (2018)
- Priority Pet Hospital Veterinary Assistant (2016)

Membership of Professional Organizations

- Arizona Agriculture Teachers Association

Activities, Awards, and Honors

- J.R. Cullison Scholarship Recipient (2019)
- Arizona Nursery Association Scholarship Recipient (2019)
- Arizona FFA Spring Conference Nursery / Landscape Student Chair (2019)
- National FFA Convention Staff / Workshop Presenter (2018)
- National FFA American Degree Recipient (2017)
- 2016-17 Arizona Association FFA State Sentinel
- CASE AFNR, provisionally certified

Taylor Merrick

Graduate Student
Pre-Student Teaching



Cooperating Center:

Highland High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Amy Dillard

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Why teach agriculture?

My high school experiences in agricultural classes are one of the primary reasons why I want to be an agricultural education teacher. Those experiences helped me to realize just how passionate I was about an industry and lent me a greater understanding of just how reliant we are towards it as individuals. I have always enjoyed teaching and leading as part of my involvement in different groups and organizations and have at times considered traditional education as a career goal. Understanding my personal passions for sharing knowledge and being a lifetime learner, being an agricultural educator makes the most sense for a fulfilling career.

Education

- Undergraduate, Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Technology and Management- Leadership and Communication Emphasis, the University of Arizona
- Graduate, Master of Science, Agriculture Education, Research Emphasis, the University of Arizona (Expected graduation, 2020)

Relevant Experiences

- Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Arizona (2018-2019)
- Fabrication Laboratory Curriculum Assistant, The Gregory School (2018-2020)
- Arizona FFA Agriscience LDE Student Chair
- American Association for Agriculture Education Poster Presenter (National and Regional, 2019)

Membership of Professional Organizations:

- National Association for Agriculture Educators
- Arizona Agriculture Teacher's Association
- American Association for Agriculture Education
- Sigma Alpha Professional Sorority-Alumna

Activities, Awards, Honors

- CASE Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources, provisional certification
- CASE Agribusiness Foundations, full certification
- J.R. Cullison Scholarship Award Recipient
- Department of Agricultural Education, Technology, and Innovation Scholarship Recipient
- Arizona Teacher's Academy Award Recipient

Content Area Specialties

- Agribusiness
- Applied Biological Systems
- Leadership
- Communications
- Introductory Plant and Animal Science

Logan Forbis



Cooperating Center:

Basha High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Kevin Hartfield

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Why teach agriculture?

I was in the FFA organization all throughout my time at Chandler High School under the advisement of Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Williams. I felt welcomed into the family almost immediately. I was able to grow and develop many skills such as professional skills, technical skills, and most of all relationship skills. I decided to become an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor so that I can inform the youth of Arizona about the local agricultural industry. Most of all, I want to help the high schoolers discover who they are, what they can accomplish, and let them know that there is always a place for them to fit in and thrive.

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today,” -Malcolm X

Education:

- Undergraduate in Agricultural Technology Management & Education: Teaching Emphasis, Bachelors of Science (Expected graduation, May 2020)

Relevant Experiences:

- Blood Dairy: Dairy Hand
- Saraband Academy of Riding: Ranch Maintenance
- Farrier Apprentice for Burkett Horseshoeing
- Associate at Russells Polishing Shop

Membership of Professional Organizations:

- Arizona Agricultural Teachers Association
- National Future Farmers of America Organization
- Boy Scouts of America

Activities, Awards, and Honors:

- Boy Scouts of America: Eagle Scout
- Arizona FFA State Degree Recipient
- CASE AFNR provisionally certified

Content Area Specialties:

I consider my content area specialty to be agricultural mechanics due to my experience at the Blood Dairy where I performed many maintenance tasks around the dairy and my experience with the agricultural mechanics CDE through FFA. In this CDE, I placed first individually at state and first with my team. We went to compete nationally and left with a silver award for the team; I also placed 16th individually in the nation. A few other experiences that strengthened my knowledge in agricultural mechanics was my work on Sarabande Academy of Riding facility and my work in a metal polishing shop in high school.

Kevin Rogers



Cooperating Center:

Marana High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Ashley Haller

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Why teach agriculture?

I believe that shaping the minds of our youth is helping cultivate the future of agriculture, our country and this world. We need the next crop of leaders to be familiar with agriculture and have an understanding of why we do what we do. I want to make a difference in the lives of kids who feel like they do not belong. So many kids find lifelong passions, like I did, through agricultural education. If I can be a stepping stone for them to uncover their passions, I want to be there. In agricultural education we use the FFA and SAE as tools to help create better students. In a Swine Production SAE, kids gain so many skills that are applicable to the real world. In the show pig industry, they always use the phrase, "We're raising kids, not just pigs". I think that also applies to agricultural education; we are not just educating the youth on how to be farmers but giving them the tools to be the best version of themselves inside and outside of the classroom. That is why I want to teach.

Education:

- Undergraduate in Agricultural Technology Management & Education: Teaching Emphasis, Bachelors of Science (Expected graduation, May 2020)

Relevant Experiences:

- Next Level Livestock Camps-Counselor (2015-2018)
- Arizona FFA Para-Professional (2015 - 2016)
- Assistant Swine Operations Manager, Heimer Hampshires (2016)
- Feed Salesman (2014 – 2016)

Membership of Professional Organization:

- Alpha Gamma Rho Professional Agriculture Fraternity: VNR Of Membership Development
- Collegiate Young Farmers and Ranchers: Executive Board
- National Junior Swine Association (NJSA) Junior Board of Directors- Western Region Director

Activities, Awards, and Honors:

- CASE AFNR, provisionally certified
- Lehi 4-H Member (2004-2015)
- Arizona FFA Swine Production Proficiency Award Winner (2015)
- AZ FFA Star Farmer in Agribusiness (2015)
- American FFA Degree Recipient (2017)

Content Area Specialties:

I consider my area specialty to be Animal Science and Livestock Production based on my time spent raising livestock in 4-H and FFA, my involvement with the National Junior Swine Association, raising livestock and helping 4-H and FFA member in Livestock exhibition, and in receiving recognition for my Swine Production and Feed Sales SAE at the State and National Level.

Mariah Shiner



Cooperating Center:

Safford High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Lance Fite

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Why teach agriculture?

Growing up in a small ranch town in Utah had a huge impact on my choice to teach agriculture. I grew up participating in rodeos and helping 3 generations on the farm. Agriculture is what I know and grew up around which evolved into a huge passion for farming and ranching in my life. In high school, my FFA advisor was always there for me. She made me believe I could accomplish things in my life I never felt was possible. The minute I walked across the stage to receive my American FFA Degree, I knew that I needed to finish college and give students the opportunity to feel as amazing and accomplished as I had felt. I truly want to be an inspiration to my future students.

“When you feel like quitting, think about why you started,” - STS Ranch

Education:

- Undergraduate in Agricultural Technology Management & Education: Teaching Emphasis, Bachelors of Science (Expected graduation, May 2020)

Relevant Experiences:

- Teaching Assistant at Altamont Elementary School (2015-2016)
- Secretary Assistant at SCI Welding and Oilfield (2014-2016)

Membership of Professional Organizations:

- National Future Farmers of America (2012-2015)

Activities, Awards, and Honors:

- National FFA American Degree Recipient (2016)
- J.R. Cullison Scholarship Recipient
- 2019 Rodeo Letter for 4 years
- Altamont Roping Club Scholarship (2015)
- Class President (2013-2014)
- FFA Chapter Vice President (2013-2014)
- FFA Chapter President (2014-2015)
- CASE AFNR, provisionally certified

Content Area Specialties:

I come from a strong cattle and ranching background. I was raised on a 4 generation working beef cattle ranch that farmed their own hay and alfalfa. I was involved in 4-H and FFA for 9 years, showing cattle and hogs. I loved learning anything I could about animals. The FFA program was my academic passion.

I also have a huge passion for horses, I participated in the Horse Evaluation CDE for 4 years in high school. Being a rancher and competing in rodeos, I truly respect great form and conformation of a horse and cattle.

Joshua Troub

Graduate Student
Post-Student Teaching

Cooperating Center:

Mayer High School

Supervising Practitioner:

Jeff Dinges

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Why teach agriculture?

Quite frankly, I did not start college with the goal of being an Agricultural Educator; I wanted to be a Wildlife Manager with Arizona Game and Fish. As I completed my freshman year in college, I introspectively evaluated the tasks I had completed and the purpose behind them. The main reason that I had gone into the Natural Resources major at the University of Arizona was because I had placed first as an individual and as a team in the Wildlife Career Development Event in the FFA organization. While I enjoyed the competition and the success I had therein, I realized that what I enjoyed even more was the program behind my competition and my success. Indubitably, the Agricultural Education model and my teacher both played significant roles in molding me into the person I have become, and I believe the passion I have to teach will drive me to produce well rounded individuals to lead the agricultural industry to provide for the rapidly growing population. Furthermore, agriculture is the inherent basis of our society since it provides food, shelter, clothing, and medicine. Growing up in Buckeye, Arizona, agriculture has been a major part of who I am. Due to its importance in society and it being engrained in my person, I could not see myself teaching any other subject besides agriculture or its related entities.

“...the greatest doer must also be a great dreamer. Of course, if the dream is not followed by action, then it is a bubble; it has merely served to divert the man from doing something.” - Theodore Roosevelt, 1905

Education:

- Undergraduate in Agricultural Technology Management & Education: Teaching Emphasis, Bachelors of Science
- Masters Degree in Agriculture Education: Research Emphasis (Expected graduation, May 2020)

Relevant Experiences:

- Five-Points Market and Restaurant - Garden Consultant
- Rocker 7 Farm Patch - Farm Hand

Membership of Professional Organizations:

- National Association of Agricultural Educators
- Arizona Agriculture Teachers Association

Activities, Awards, and Honors:

- Dean's Leadership 50 - Member
- CASE AFNR, provisionally certified
- CASE Agricultural Business Foundations Certification
- 2015-16 Arizona Association FFA State President
- Boy Scouts of America - Eagle Scout
- SMAW, Arc Welding - 1g Certified

Content Area Specialties:

I consider my content area specialty to be natural resources due to my experience with the Boy Scouts of America, the Wildlife Career Development Event, the Environmental and Natural Resources Career Development Event, the Natural Resources Major, in volunteering with Game and Fish, the Society for Range Management, and in my success at Natural Resource Conservation Workshop for Arizona Youth.