Bryan Wendt ’15
Mankato, MN
B.S. Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering

WAS INVOLVED IN:
Alpha Gamma Rho, Gopher Dairy Club, Minnesota Royal

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
I am employed as the Executive Director for the Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council. MAELC is a 16-member legislative council dedicated to improving and expanding Agricultural Education in Minnesota at all levels. MAELC was founded in 1997, and members include agri-business leaders, teachers, legislators, and other stakeholders interested in Agricultural Education. Previously, I was the Center Program Manager in the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. On campus, I advise the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and participate in the CFANS Mentor Program. Off campus, I serve on the Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation Board and as past president of the Minnesota Agri-Women.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
Scholarships allowed me to focus on my courses and extracurricular activities while being a student leader on campus. I was able to serve various student organizations in leadership roles without the full burden of the high cost of tuition. In serving, I gained valuable experience to take into my career, that has helped me to be successful.

Sarah Dornink ’06 ‘10
Harmony, MN
B.S., M.Ed. Agricultural Education

WAS INVOLVED IN:
COAFES Student Board (President), Collegiate Agri-Women (President), Minnesota Agri-Women Executive Board, Beta of Clovia Sorority (VP), St. Paul Board of Colleges (Secretary), Agricultural Education Club, Alumni Mentor Program, Student Learning Communities College Committee.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
I am an Associate Project Engineer for CHS. I work on capital projects to achieve safety, downtime prevention and process improvement of processing soybeans into soy meal, oil and flour. I analyze issues, and determine a solution with new equipment and specify the orders. I then hire contractors and oversee construction through to implementation.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
The scholarships I received through CFANS enabled me to spend a semester abroad in Spain. I love to be outside and watch plants and animals that I tend grow. Since I have received scholarships from very kind and generous donors, I have been able to focus my time on what is important to me. I can put additional time into classwork and the responsibilities for extracurricular clubs, rather than having multiple jobs to pay for rent. Thanks again. My sincere gratitude can never truly be put into words.

Joe Ramstad ’19
St. Paul, MN
B.S. Agricultural Education, ’19

INVOLVED IN:
Ag Ed Club, Gopher Dairy Club, St. Lawrence Church, Agtastic Idea Challenge, FarmHouse Fraternity, CFANS Mentor Program, CFANS Research Apprenticeship Program

CAREER GOALS AND INTERESTS:
I hope to graduate from CFANS with degrees in Agricultural Education and Agricultural Communication and teach agriculture courses at a local high school.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
Through receiving scholarships, I have been able to focus more on my education and learning while at college and less on stressing about paying for college. I feel that I have already learned and experienced so much within my short time here at the University of Minnesota, and I am confident that without support, my experience here would be completely different. Receiving financial support through scholarships has assisted in the alleviation of financial burdens and I am incredibly grateful for them.

Amy Gallop ’14
Minnetonka, MN
B.S. Nutrition Science.

WAS INVOLVED IN:
CFANS Ambassadors, Undergraduate Advisory Board

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
I just finished my first year of medical school at Saint Louis University in Missouri. I took a gap year between undergrad and medical school and worked as a medical scribe. I am unsure on my specialty (I have plenty of time to decide) but am very interested in psychiatry, ob/gyn and oncology.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
The scholarships allowed me to focus on learning and being involved in extracurricular activities instead of worrying about money.

ALSO, CFANS’ nutrition science degree gave me a unique perspective going into medical school because most medical students do not have much nutrition knowledge. Looking back, my most enjoyable courses were all in the FScN department!

Maria Frank ’15
Peoria, IL
B.S. Nutrition

WAS INVOLVED IN:
Student Organization of Nutrition and Dietetics, CFANS Alumni Society Mentor Program

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
I graduated from the U of M last May, and over the past year, I completed 1900+ hours of supervised practice at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL. This was my final stage of preparation before taking the registration exam for dietitians. I recently passed exam, and I am currently searching for a position as a bilingual (Spanish and English) community dietitian.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
The scholarships I received through CFANS enabled me to spend a semester abroad in Spain. I believe this experience will make me a better dietitian because it gave me the language skills I need to work with both Spanish- and English-speakers and made me more comfortable when dealing with different cultures and belief systems.
Michelle Vohs ‘17
Hopkins, MN
B.S. Conservation Biology

INVOLVED IN:
I am a member of the Fisheries and Wildlife Club and this club has connected me to other students in the major while gaining hands on experience with wildlife and professionals.

CAREER GOALS AND INTERESTS:
In the future, I want to pursue a career within the field of Conservation Biology. I would like to do research on a species that is threatened or endangered, or possibly something related like habitat restoration or other work with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. I like doing research and gaining hands on experience to learn about the world around me by doing field work. I am minoring in Entomology and I have worked at the Bee Lab since spring 2014, which has given me many opportunities and a passion for bees and insects.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
Being selected as a recipient of the CFANS Alumni Scholarship has really been an honor and financially very helpful. This gives me the opportunity to discover all the U of M has to offer and make the most of my college experience here. This scholarship drives me to do well, not only for myself, but also for the donors professors and faculty who make this journey possible.

Haely Leiding ‘19
Fountain, MN
B.S. Agricultural Education

INVOLVED IN:
Agricultural Education Club, Gopher Dairy Club, Beta of Clovia Sorority

CAREER GOALS AND INTERESTS:
My professional goal is to become an influential Agricultural Education Teacher in a high school setting. I want to inspire and educate all types of students about agriculture and the many ways agriculture impacts our daily lives. I hope that my education helps to persuade my students to get involved in the agricultural industry and become the future agribusiness leaders. I could also see myself being involved in my family’s dairy farm in the future. Although I don’t want my main job to be farming, I picture myself still owning animals in the herd and helping with chores after school. I have loved growing up on a dairy farm and being involved in the dairy community through showing, judging, and many youth organizations.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
The CFANS Alumni Scholarship has helped me to be able to continue my education at this influential university. With the help of this scholarship I am able to focus more on my education and less on the worries of how to pay for college. This scholarship has also connected me to the CFANS alumni board and other alumni and allowed me to make connections I hope to continue to use in the future.

Ellie Bauer ‘17
Harmony, MN
B.S. Nutrition

INVOLVED IN:
Student Nutrition Advocacy Collaborative, Food Science and Nutrition Club, Student Organization of Nutrition and Dietetics, Lambda Delta Phi Sorority, CFANS Ambassadors

CAREER GOALS AND INTERESTS:
I want to be a part of a team that works towards food security. I have a passion for people who are malnourished and want to combine my knowledge of nutrition and food systems to help them thrive.

HOW HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACTED YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE?
I have been able to keep the amount of hours of needing to work during the school year to about ten hours a week. This has helped me have enough time to do school work and get very involved in student organizations. I have been involved in the organizations I listed above as well as quite a few others including Cru, Admissions Ambassadors, and volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House. These experiences help add to my education so much more than just classroom experiences can.