



2022-2023 Annual Report

Midwest Poultry Consortium

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2023 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

The Midwest Poultry Consortium (MPC) awarded Dr. Anup Kollanoor Johny of the University of Minnesota with its 2023 Outstanding Service Award. The award is given to individuals who exemplify outstanding service to the Consortium and to the poultry industry as a whole. Dr. Johny was recognized for his invaluable dedication and commitment to MPC's Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship (COE) Program. He was key to the success of COE's debut at the University of Minnesota in 2022. Dr. Johny served as an instructor in the Poultry Products Technology and Poultry Enterprise Management classes and is the onsite coordinator in years in which the COE is located at the University of Minnesota



Anup Johny

Dr. Johny, the 22nd recipient, joins past winners: Sally Noll, *University of Minnesota* ('22); Elizabeth Bobeck, *Iowa State University* ('21); 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).

RESEARCH LEGISLATION

MPC's Persistence Paying Dividends ... Nearly \$1 Million Awarded to Poultry Research. The Midwest Poultry Consortium has been seeking a replacement for the Midwest Poultry Research Program (MPRP) since the demise of earmarks. Through our persistence, Congress established the Laying Hen and Turkey Research Program (LHTRP) in the FY'23 Omnibus funding bill to recognize the critical need for public research funding for laying hen and turkey research. USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) announced nearly \$1 million in funding was awarded to two research projects, one working with laying hens and the other with turkey:

Laying Hen Performance: Antioxidant Carotenoids and Heat Stress (\$460,455)

- Evan Rocheford, Torbert Rocheford; NutraMaize (\$230,455); Darrin Karcher, Greg Fraley; Purdue University (\$230,000); Egg Innovations is providing matching fund services.

Probiotic Lactobacillus-Based Recombinant Oral Vaccine Against Clostridial Dermatitis in Turkeys (\$465,000)

- Ravi Kulkarni, Rocio Crespo, Sarah O'Flaherty, Rodolphe Barrangou, Anil Thachil; North Carolina State University

LHTRP priorities:

1. Disease prevention, including vaccine development and administration, diagnostics and early detection, disease resistance, and reducing pathogen transmission.
2. Antimicrobial resistance, including alternatives to antimicrobials, such as probiotics or prebiotics; antimicrobial technologies; and mitigation of multidrug resistance.
3. Nutrition, including alternative and sustainable feeds and ingredients.
4. Gut health, including improvements to gut health that promote animal health, and impacts of pathogens, commensals, and the microbiome.
5. Alternative housing systems under extreme seasonal weather conditions, including use of precision technologies, enhanced monitoring to improve indoor air quality and biosecurity, and to control the spread of disease.

The projects which received funding are three-year projects. As these projects reach completion, MPC will post project results on its website allowing you to search by keyword, researcher, university/entity, project year, category, or research program.

COE HOST UNIVERSITIES

2023 COE Hosted by Iowa State University. The COE rotates between Iowa State University (ISU) and University of Minnesota (UMN). ISU hosted in 2020, 2021, and 2023. UMN hosted in 2022 and will host again in 2024. 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 2023 Annual Meeting. MPC's Annual Meeting was held April 11 in conjunction with the PEAK Convention. Guest speakers featured Greg Fraley (Avian Physiology instructor; *Terry and Sandra Tucker Endowed Chair of Poultry Science at Purdue University*) and Dannielle Drees (COE graduate; *Elanco*). Dr. Fraley gave a faculty perspective on the value of COE. Dannielle, a 2017 COE graduate, detailed the influence COE faculty had on her career path, the COE courses she took, the industry internship value, and how integral the COE friendships and networks have been to her career. Chelsea Russell finished by introducing Anup Johny as MPC's Outstanding Service Award recipient.

Chair Curtis Novak accepted motions to approve the Secretary's, Treasurer's, and Nominating Committee reports. Board seats were filled by: Janelle Heesch, *Pilgrim's* (Broiler); Julie Kelly, *Michael Foods* (Egg); Peter Sonstegard, *Sontegard Foods* (Egg); Kristine Knobloch, *West Liberty Foods* (Turkey); Curtis Novak, *Alltech* (Allied), and Zachary Simons, *Adisseo* (Allied). Mike Bowman of Versova was also nominated for the open Egg seat.

2022-2023 Sponsors

Adisseo

AEI

Ag Installers

Alltech

Anderson Chemical Co.

Arrington, Lou

Aviagen

Aviagen Turkeys

Best Veterinary Solutions

Big Dutchman

Boehringer Ingelheim

Bosma Poultry

Butterfield Foods

Cal-Maine Foods

Cargill

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

Cottingham & Butler

Creighton Brothers

Daybreak Foods

DSM Nutritional Products

Egg Innovations

Elanco Animal Health

Evonik Industries

Falcon Packaging

Farm Credit Mid-America

Farm Credit Services of America

Farmers Hen House

Fienhage International

Forsman Farms

Fremont Farms of Iowa

Frost, PLLC

H&N North America

Handrew

Hendrix Genetics

Henning Companies

Herbruck's Poultry Ranch

Hickman's Egg Ranch

Hidden Villa Ranch/NestFresh

Huvepharma

Hy-Line North America

ILC Resources

Indiana State Poultry Assn.

Iowa Area Development Group

Iowa State University

Iowa Cage Free

Iowa Egg Council

Iowa Turkey Federation

IsoNova

Jamesway

Jennie-O

Jones-Hamilton

Kemin Animal Nutrition & Health

COE Students, Faculty, & Industry Gather for Banquet & Awards Ceremony. MPC held its 2023 COE Banquet and Awards Ceremony to honor its class (pictured), marking the end of its 28th 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. For almost 30 years, the COE has provided students with the opportunity to earn up to 18 credits, participate in industry internships, and develop a lifelong industry network of peers on which to rely over the course of their poultry careers.

In addition to honoring students and faculty, the Banquet gave students the opportunity to visit with industry representatives about career paths. The awards ceremony recognized Isaac Harreld as the most dedicated student (*Ducks in a Row Award*), Peter Bina as class clown (*Yolkster Award*), and Boston Gilpin as the most intelligent student (*Egghead Award*). Faculty members recognized with the coveted *Mark Cook Pullet-zer Prize* were Greg Fraley, *Purdue University* (SSI) and Liz Bobeck, *Iowa State University* (SSII). Also nominated: Michael Cressman (ISU); Jim Dickson (ISU); Ron Kean (UW); Ken Koelkebeck (UIUC); Dawn Koltes (ISU); Carl Parsons (UIUC); and Yuko Sato (ISU). Awards are voted on by students. The 2023 COE graduates, completing both years of COE, were Kasey Matusik (MSU); Spencer Karn (OSU); Ryker Hickman (SDSU); Isaac Harreld (UWRF); Elizabeth Brandt (SDSU); Alyssa Botbyl (MSU); and Peter Bina (UMN).

Banquet Sponsors: Alltech; Compeer Financial; Fremont Farms of Iowa; Henning Companies; Hy-Line North America; Jennie-O; Life-Science Innovations; Naturally Recycled Proteins; Rembrandt Foods; Rose Acre Farms; Sonstegard Foods; VALO BioMedia North America, and West Liberty Foods.



2023 COE – SCHOLARSHIPS, FACULTY, LEADERSHIP, FORUMS, & INTERNSHIPS

Scholarship Selection. Thirty students participated in the 2023 COE program, representing 11 of the 13 MPC member states. Full scholarships were awarded to 23 students and partial scholarships to 7 students.

SUMMER SESSION I

Peter Bina - *University of Minnesota*

Elizabeth Brandt - *South Dakota State University*

Tianna Charlson - *Iowa State University*

Kaden de Jong - *University of Missouri*

Boston Gilpin - *Iowa State University*

Ryker Hickman - *South Dakota State University*

Addison Jenkins - *University of Missouri*

Spencer Karn - *The Ohio State University*

Averie McSweeney - *Michigan State University*

Levi Meiwes - *Kansas State University*

Joshua Mumm - *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Khanyma Nelthropp - *University of Florida*

Delanie Schroer - *Iowa State University*

Brooke Sorah - *University of Wisconsin-River Falls*

Kaylie Williams - *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Judith Zhu - *University of Minnesota*

SUMMER SESSION II

Alyssa Botbyl - *Michigan State University*

Maggie Brackett - *Western Kentucky University*

Chiara Cutts - *North Dakota State University*

Barbara Ditrach - *University of Wisconsin-River Falls*

Isaac Harreld - *University of Wisconsin-River Falls*

Christopher Hernandez - *University of Florida*

Ivana Hernandez Garbati - *University of Florida*

Elizabeth Hunsinger - *University of Florida*

Rachel Klein - *University of Missouri*

Kasey Matusik - *Michigan State University*

Olivia McGuire - *Purdue University*

Elaine Ramey - *The Ohio State University*

Valerie Rosales - *Iowa State University*

Michael Zuccaro - *The Ohio State University*

Poultry Leadership Experience (PLE). Beth Nelson (MPC), Chelsea Russell (MPC), and Zachary Simons (Adisseo) taught PLE, a three-day session incorporated into the Poultry Enterprise Management course. 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 opportunities to network with industry leaders, learn more about the poultry industry, and explore future career opportunities. Speakers: Brett Pickar* (*Daybreak Foods*); Abby Scott* (*Jennie-O*); Claudia Duarte and Stacey Roberts (*Versova*); Angela Lamp and Heidi Brown (*Michael Foods*); Dave Hasemann* (*Rose Acre Farms*); and Kaitlyn Hermansen* and Natan Hanson (*Pilgrim's*). *COE graduate



Internships. Twenty-five industry internships were awarded, allowing students to take classroom knowledge and apply it to real-world settings. Internships last six to ten weeks, following COE classes each summer. Thanks to the following internship hosts:

Cobb Vantress
Cooper Farms
Daybreak Foods

Fremont Farms of Iowa
Hy-Line North America
Jennie-O

MacFarlane Pheasants
Miller Poultry
Ohio Poultry Assn

Perdue Farms
Pilgrim's
Rose Acre Farms

Sietsema Farms
Select Genetics
Sparboe

Versova
West Liberty Foods

Faculty Drives COE Success. A strong commitment by faculty members, who are dedicated to the industry and to the students they educate, is the reason the poultry industry finds 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 of the industry. 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 2023 COE faculty members and guest speakers who dedicated their time and shared their expertise with the 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*
James Dickson, *Iowa State University*
Mark Richards, *University of Wisconsin*
Ethan Scheffler, *The Ohio State University*

Avian Physiology

Dawn Koltjes, *Iowa State University*
Gregory Fraley, *Purdue University*

Breeder Flock & Hatchery Management

Ron Kean, *University of Wisconsin*
Kahina Boukherroub, *University of Minnesota*
Mike Wineland, *North Carolina State University*
Ian Rubinoff, *Hy-Line North America*

Coordinators; Instructors; Guest Lecturers

ISU Lab Support & Teaching Assistants

Jessica Seward, Lillie Decker, Courtney Edward,
Kayla Elmore, Michael Kaiser, Steve Niebuhr,
Jeff Tjelta, Matthew Wenger

Field Trip Hosts

Hawkeye Pride, Balloun Turkey Teaching &
Research Facility, Select Genetics, Kent Feed Mill &
Grain Science Complex, Iowa Turkey Federation,
West Liberty Foods, Iowa State University's
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

SUMMER SESSION II

Poultry Nutrition

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

Avian Health

Yuko Sato, *Iowa State University*
Geoffrey Lossie, *Purdue University*
Hans Koehnke, *ARKO Labs*
Ross Thoreson, *Best Veterinary Solutions*
Elycia VanVacter, *North Central Poultry Association*

Poultry Enterprise Management

Ken Koelkebeck, *University of Illinois*
Anup Kollanoor Johny, *University of Minnesota*
Steven Corbitt, *Maple Leaf Farms*
Gretchen Beyler, *Cargill*
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*
Brett Pickar, *Daybreak Foods*
Craig Rowles, *Iowa Cage Free*
Chelsea Russell, *MPC*
Jessica Seward, *Iowa State University*
Zachary Simons, *Adisseo*

STUDENT PLACEMENT

COE Students in the News. MPC's student tracking and database system follows COE graduates not only through 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!

Kathryn Berta, a 2022 COE participant, accepted the position of Management Trainee with Pilgrim's in Russellville, AL. She graduated from University of Illinois in May 2023 with a degree in Animal Science.

Russell Cheney, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of Management Trainee with Pilgrim's in Sanford, NC. He graduated from The Ohio State University in May 2023 with a degree in Animal Science.

Rachel Herschman, a 2022 COE graduate, accepted the position of Quality Control Clinical Scientist in poultry vaccine research with Elanco in Winslow, ME. She graduated from Iowa State University in May 2022 with a degree in Animal Science.

Paige Kelly, a 2019 COE graduate, accepted the position of Sustainability and Environmental Manager with the Ohio Poultry Association in Columbus, OH. She earned a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Animal Science from The Ohio State University.

Julia Knudson, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of Assistant Area Supervisor with Jennie-O in Barron, WI. She graduated from University of Illinois in December 2022 with a degree in Animal Science.

Brittany Skaggs, a 2017 COE participant, accepted the position of Technical Service Veterinarian with Hy-Line North America in Des Moines, IA. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science from University of Florida-Gainesville and her DVM from Iowa State University.

Kiana Smutzler, a 2021 COE participant, accepted the position of 360 Product Development Specialist with Jamesway's global sales team. She graduated from Iowa State University in May 2023 with a degree in Animal Science.

Paige Williams, a 2022 COE graduate, accepted the position of Management Trainee with Rose Acre Farms in Pulaski County, IN. She graduated from University of Missouri in December 2022 with a degree in Animal Sciences.

2022-2023 Sponsors cont.

Kindstrom-Schmoll
Koechner Manufacturing
Life-Science Innovations
Lincoln Premium Poultry
M & C Anderson Pullets
MacFarlane Pheasants
Maple Leaf Farms
Merck Animal Health
Michael Foods
Michigan Allied Poultry Ind.
Michigan Turkey Producers
Midwest Poultry Federation
Miller Poultry
MN Turkey Research Promotion Council
Moba
MPS Egg Farms
MWI Animal Health
Naturally Recycled Proteins
Nebraska Poultry Industries
Nelson Poultry Farms
North American Gamebird Assn.
Nova-Tech Engineering
Novus International
Ohio Poultry Association
Organic Valley
Oskaloosa Food Products
Perdue Farms
Pilgrim's
Prime Foods
Purina Animal Nutrition
Rembrandt Foods
Ridley Feed Ingredients
River View Farms
Rose Acre Farms
SANOVO Technology USA
Select Genetics
Sietsema Farms
Sonstegard Foods
South Dakota Poultry Ind. Assn.
Sparboe
StoneX Group
Sunrise Acres Egg Farms
Sure Conveyors
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.
Xgenex
Zoetis
\$5,000 • \$10,000 • \$20,000

Board of Directors

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Alltech

Vice Chair

Dave Hasemann - Egg
Rose Acre Farms

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Brian Joyer - Egg
H&N North America

Treasurer

Robin Kopel - Turkey
Jennie-O

Mike Bowman - Egg
Versova

Lisa Henning - Allied
Henning Companies

Pete Block - Allied
Hy-Line North America

Steven Corbitt - Other species
Maple Leaf Farms

Evan Hayes - Egg
Fremont Farms of Iowa

Janelle Heesch - Broiler
Pilgrim's

Kristine Knobloch - Turkey
West Liberty Foods

Julie Kelly - Egg
Michael Foods

Scott Norling - Turkey
Life-Science Innovations (WPC)

Beth Schnell - Egg
Sparboe

Zachary Simons - Allied
Adisseo

Peter Sonstegard - Egg
Sonstegard Foods

Terry Wehrkamp - Turkey
Cooper Farms

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Congratulations to COE Students Entering Graduate or Vet School. COE students accepted into graduate programs in areas important to the poultry industry: Peter Bina (*University of Minnesota*); Michael Carroll (*Mississippi State University*); Paulina Farias (*Texas A&M University*), Spencer Karn (*Mississippi State University*); and Rachel Klein (*University of Missouri*).

COE students accepted into veterinary school: Ryker Hickman (*Royal School of Veterinary Studies*); Shealyn O'Sullivan (*University of Missouri*); and Mikayla Schlosser (*University of Minnesota*).

RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2024 COE CLASS

Recruitment activities for the 2024 COE class consisted of career fairs, classroom presentations, panels, and poultry club meetings, as well as providing students and faculty with digital materials.

Career Fairs. MPC participated in six career fairs at member schools. Career fairs are done in conjunction with classroom visits helping MPC build student awareness and share poultry-based career information in a one-on-one setting. MPC also had displays at University of Florida and University of Illinois during campus visits. Past COE students Julianna Jespersen (*COE 2016*); Rachel Klein (*COE 2023*); Kasey Matusik (*COE 2022/2023*); Olivia McGuire (*COE 2023*); Levi Meiwes (*COE 2023*); and Melani Rosario (*COE 2022*) assisted in the career fairs.

Classroom Visits. To maintain visibility directly in classes, MPC spoke at in-person and virtual courses. Over 50 classroom presentations were given. In addition to Chelsea Russell, COE Student Director, past COE students Alyssa Botbyl (*COE 2022/2023*); Boston Gilpin (*COE 2022/2023*); Chris Hernandez (*COE 2023*); Ivana Hernandez Garbati (*COE 2023*); Elizabeth Hunsinger (*COE 2023*); Rachel Klein (*COE 2023*); Samantha LeBlanc (*COE 2021*); Kasey Matusik (*COE 2022/2023*); Olivia McGuire (*COE 2023*); Khanyma Nelthropp (*COE 2023*); Valerie Rosales (*COE 2023*); Melani Rosario (*COE 2022*); and Delanie Schroer (*COE 2023*) assisted in presentations.

Poultry Clubs. MPC participated in five poultry club visits at member schools and spoke at an IPPE/COE Information Night at the University of Florida. In addition to MPC staff, several past students assisted in the club visits and shared their COE experiences, including Melanie Bergman (*COE 2020*); Alyssa Botbyl (*COE 2022/2023*); Tianna Charlson (*COE 2023*); Barbara Dittrich (*COE 2023*); Boston Gilpin (*COE 2022/2023*); Isaac Harreld (*COE 2022*); Chris Hernandez (*COE 2023*); Ivana Hernandez Garbati (*COE 2023*); Nick Levendoski (*COE 1999/2000*); Kasey Matusik (*COE 2022/2023*); Olivia McGuire (*COE 2023*); Neil Moser (*2005/2006*); Joshua Mumm (*COE 2023*); Brooke Sorah (*2023*); and Kaylie Williams (*COE 2023*).



Purdue poultry club meeting.

Poultry Panels. MPC coordinated two in-person poultry panels which were held at NDSU and SDSU. Panelists spoke on areas of live production, processing, nutrition, sales, and veterinary medicine. They gave tips on what experiences college students should seek to be successful in the poultry industry and shared information on what their jobs entail. Animal science departments support the panels by offering student credit for attendance.

Over 65 students attended the NDSU panel. Minnesota Turkey Growers Association (*MTGA*) sponsored the meal. Panelists included: Chiara Cutts (*NDSU/COE 2023*); Kelsey Held (*Pilgrims*); Jeff Jaderborg (*McFleeg*); Brandon Severns (*MTGA*); and Marissa Studniski (*Select Genetics*). Chelsea Russell (*MPC Student Director*) moderated.

The SDSU panel had over 115 people in attendance. The South Dakota Poultry Industries Association sponsored the meal. Panelists included: Lizzi Brandt (*SDSU/COE 2022*); Katie Kieke (*Pilgrims*); Angela Lamp (*Michael Foods*); Randall Pete (*Dakota Provisions*); and Evan VanBeusekom (*Hybrid Turkeys*). Chelsea Russell (*MPC Student Director*) moderated.

Social Media Outreach. MPC started publishing monthly stories with updates from past COE students, offering a peek at the career progression of COE students, while also serving as inspiration for prospective students. The stories were published in the Feathered Pen, shared on our social media pages, and sent as reference material to 2024 COE applicants. Past COE students featured in 2022/2023: Elizabeth Beilke (*West Liberty Foods*); Kathryn Borders (*Miller Poultry*); Nick Braun (*Dairy Queen*); Kevin Gast (*Daybreak Foods*); Matthew Gorski (*McDonald's*); Kelsey Held (*Pilgrims*); Alex Hohenstein (*Jennie-O*); Keturah Hyde (*Maple Leaf Farms*); Valeria Johnson (*Sietsema Farms*); Julia Knudson (*Jennie-O*); Andrea Mendoza (*Michigan State University*); Madisyn Murphy (*Hy-Line NA*); Patrick Niyitugize (*Trillium Farm Holdings*); Aaron Ripplinger (*Pilgrim's*); Eliza Ripplinger (*North Carolina State University*); Lisa Tenny (*Aviagen*); and Heather Velde (*Sparboe*).

Internships were featured from: Chiara Cutts (*Jennie-O*); Kaden de Jong (*Daybreak Foods*); Ivana Hernandez Garbati (*Miller Poultry*); Ryker Hickman (*Select Genetics*); Olivia McGuire (*Rose Acre Farms*); Levi Meiwes (*Pilgrim's*); and Elaine Ramey (*Ohio Poultry Association*).

Additionally, updates from campus visits were shared on MPC's social media pages and cross-promoted by the poultry clubs in our member schools.