Dear Students:

Welcome back! The Diversity Programs Office (DPO) staff is excited to have you back on campus and ready for a new academic year! As you get acclimated to our campus environment, I would like to encourage you to begin thinking of ways you can get connected on campus.

The College of Agriculture is a great college to be in. There are so many opportunities, especially for minority students. The DPO is dedicated to serving all students, especially those from underrepresented ethnic backgrounds and it’s the only DPO in the Big 12. Our corporate partners recognized the need to recruit more minority students into agricultural studies leading them to create minority scholarships, which the DPO is responsible for distributing.

I would encourage you to join MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture in Natural Resources and Related Sciences). MANRRS is a student group that provides a local and national network of support for K-State students enrolled in agriculture related majors. Our student organization was formed to meet the academic, pre-professional, and social needs of ethnic minority students within the College of Agriculture as well as other colleges across the campus. I would like to welcome MANRRS 2012-2013 executive board. President: Simone Holliday; Vice-president: Monica Farfan; Treasurer: Mayra Perez-Fajardo; Secretary: Stephanie Skinner; Assistant Secretary: Olivia Moore; MSO Representatives: Cassondra Sapata-Smith, Alicia Luarks, and Taneysha Howard; Historians: Jessica Nguyen and Mayra Perez-Fajardo. Serving as the Ag Student Council Representative for MANRRS will be Brshna Flores, who is also a 2012 MAPS scholar. Tiffany Carter will serve as the MANRRS Graduate Student Council Representative; she was a 2011 KSRE Multicultural Summer Fellow, and is now a new graduate student in the Grain Science department.

We look forward to a great year! I wish the best of success to all of you and remind you that the DPO staff is here to help you in whatever way we are able to. Please come stop by the office which is located in Waters 139.

GO STATE!
Zelia Wiley, Ph.D.

2012 American Royal Scholars

The American Royal is a non-profit organization, which has been one of the most provident traditions of Kansas City since 1899. The American Royal annually hosts the World’s largest barbecue contest, one of the Midwest’s largest and oldest livestock exhibitions and professional rodeos, prestigious horse shows and is home of the National Championship Saddle bred horse competition.

The American Program raises funds in order to provide the youth with educational programs and scholarship opportunities. One of the program’s annual scholarships is the Royal Scholars Program. The Royal Scholars is a program designed to provide an opportunity for outstanding college students to advocate the food and fiber industry, leadership and the American Royal.

This year the program selected 2 of our very own K-State students out over sixty applicants. Reagan Kays, a junior in Ag Business and Claire Carlson, a junior in Ag Comm and Journalism. Kays and Carlson will represent the American Royal in the various programs and activities they will put on for the 2012-2013 year.

Congratulations to the 2012 American Royal Scholars!
Look Whose New in the DPO

Daja Menefee is a masters student in the Agricultural Economics department. She is from Newnan, Georgia and graduated undergrad from Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia. During her senior year of undergrad, she was sure she’d attend graduate school here at K-State. As a past participant of the KSRE Multicultural Fellowship program in 2010, Daja was able to experience first hand what life as a K-State graduate student would be like. “Coming from a historically black university which has a drastically smaller campus than K-State’s, I wasn’t sure how I would like Manhattan. During my summer stay I had an amazing time! Looking back, the K-State family was so friendly from its faculty and staff to its student population. There was no other option. I was going to be Wildcat!” When Daja is not studying, she participates in Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) and the Diversity Program Office.

Congratulations to the 2012 COA MAPS Students

Fernando Adams  
Animal Science

Angelina Mandala  
Animal Science

Allison Diederich  
Animal Science

Gabriel Ojeda  
Animal Science

Brishna Flores  
Bakery Science

Marshe Slaughter  
Animal Science

Alicia Grover  
Bakery Science

Abigail Stedry  
Animal Science

Casey Johnson  
Animal Science

Chante Thompson  
Ag Business

Catherine Lawless  
Ag Comm and Journalism

Daniel Vasquez  
Agricultural Economics

Congratulations to the Summer 2012 Cargill Scholars

Daja Menefee is a masters student in the Agricultural Economics department. She is from Newnan, Georgia and graduated undergrad from Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia. During her senior year of undergrad, she was sure she’d attend graduate school here at K-State. As a past participant of the KSRE Multicultural Fellowship program in 2010, Daja was able to experience first hand what life as a K-State graduate student would be like. “Coming from a historically black university which has a drastically smaller campus than K-State’s, I wasn’t sure how I would like Manhattan. During my summer stay I had an amazing time! Looking back, the K-State family was so friendly from its faculty and staff to its student population. There was no other option. I was going to be Wildcat!” When Daja is not studying, she participates in Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) and the Diversity Program Office.

A U G U S T / S E P T E M B E R

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Contact the DPO for an appointment at 785-532-5793 or Janet Roggencamp, 785-532-6151. Thank you.