

January 15, 2010

CoBank Cooperative Scholarships  
Ag Scholarships Awarded

MANHATTAN, Kan. – CoBank is contributing to the education of future agricultural leaders with an interest in a career in finance or banking. Jenny Combes and David White were selected to be the recipients of the 2009-2010 CoBank Cooperative Scholarships.

Jenny Combes of Lebo, KS, is a December graduate of Kansas State University where she majored in agribusiness. She was a member of the AgEcon/AgBus club, Ag Ambassadors and participated on an International Agricultural Study Tour to Ireland. Jenny worked in the Agriculture Student Records Office in the College of Agriculture and would like to work as a loan officer upon graduation. The Combes family is affiliated with Frontier Farm Credit and Ottawa Cooperative Association.

David White of Wellington, KS, is a senior at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural economics and agricultural communications and journalism with a minor in agronomy. David is a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and serves as a K-State student senator. In addition, he has been involved with College of Agriculture Ambassadors, College of Agriculture Student Council, Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, Silver Key and National FFA. He works for the family farm and has his own 200 acre wheat and cotton operation. He also works for Frontier Farm Credit and has interned with USAGBank. Upon graduation, David plans to work for the Farm Credit system and eventually take over the family farming operation and crop insurance business. David and his family are affiliated with the following cooperatives: Frontier Farm Credit, Farmers Grain Cooperative (Wellington), Southern Kansas Cotton Growers Cooperative, Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative, KanOkla Telephone Assn.

To be eligible for a scholarship, students must be either a junior or senior in high academic standing in K-State's Department of Agricultural Economics at the time the scholarship is received and must have completed accounting or finance classes. The student must demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in banking or finance. In addition, the student or their parents must belong to a farmer-owned cooperative.

The awarding of the CoBank Cooperative Scholarships is coordinated through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center (ACCC), directed by Professor David Barton. The ACCC provides research-based information, education and assistance to people with and interested in cooperative businesses, including cooperative members, directors, managers and employees. The Center also works with students and faculty at educational institutions, the general public and public officials as well as owners, directors, managers and employees of agribusinesses.

COBANK, part of the U.S. Farm Credit System, provides financial solutions and leasing services to agricultural cooperatives, rural energy and communications systems, Farm Credit associations and other businesses serving rural America. The bank also finances agricultural exports and provides international banking services. The bank provides leasing services through its subsidiary, Farm Credit Leasing Services Corp. With approximately \$27 billion in assets, the bank is owned by approximately 2,500 customer-owners. COBANK is governed by a board of directors elected by the bank's customer-owners. The bank operates on a cooperative basis and, historically, a substantial portion of earnings is returned to the bank's owners in the form of patronage refunds. COBANK has offices throughout the U.S. and representative offices around the world. The national office is located in Denver, CO.

“Additional contributions by those who want to support the purposes of cooperative scholarships are welcome,” Barton said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/ACCC” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Department of Agricultural Economics, 305 Waters Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. 66506.

Further information can be obtained about this scholarship or about establishing additional scholarships by contacting David Barton at the same address or e-mailing, [dbarton@ksu.edu](mailto:dbarton@ksu.edu).

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K-State Research and Extension is a short name for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, a program designed to generate and distribute useful knowledge for the well-being of Kansans. Supported by county, state, federal and private funds, the program has county Extension offices, experiment fields, area Extension offices and regional research centers statewide. Its headquarters is on the K-State campus in Manhattan.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity employer and provider. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating.

Arthur Capper Cooperative Center  
Agricultural Economics  
K-State Research and Extension

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Photo: left to right: David White, Dennis Blick – CoBank, and Jenny Combes at the K-State Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, September 25, 2009