

## **Lindy Bilberry and Jeff Hadachek Receive 2016 David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship**

October 11, 2016 (MANHATTAN, Kan.) – Linda (Lindy) Bilberry of Garden City, Kansas, a senior in agricultural economics; and Jeffrey (Jeff) Hadachek of Cuba, Kansas, a junior in agricultural economics, have each been awarded the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Lindy Bilberry is active in the Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Club and Food for Thought. She has also served as an ambassador for the College of Agriculture, been involved on the K-State University Open House Core Committee and represented the College of Agriculture on the Student Governing Association Executive Cabinet. Lindy has been chosen as a member of Blue Key Senior Honorary and is a previous recipient of the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship and the CHS University Scholarship. In addition to school, she works as a student assistant for the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. Lindy has completed internships with The Gavilon Group, Garden City Co-op, Inc. and the Kansas FFA Association. After her May 2017 graduation, Lindy hopes to pursue a career in grain merchandising, with the hopes of becoming a CEO of a mid-sized agricultural cooperative. The Bilberry family is affiliated with Garden City Co-op, Inc., Victory Electric Cooperative Association and Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Jeff Hadachek has been active in the College of Agriculture Student Council and has served as an ambassador for the College of Agriculture. He serves on the Student Alumni Board that assists the Alumni Association and is active in FarmHouse Fraternity. In addition to school, Jeff has been involved in the Kansas FFA Association, where he served as the Kansas FFA Secretary, was selected to serve on the National FFA Officer Nominating Committee and experienced the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers in South Africa. He works as the Office Manager for Academic Programs for the College of Agriculture and has completed an internship with Michael Torrey Associates, LLC and MKC. After his May 2018 graduation, Jeff plans to attend graduate school and earn his Master's Degree through the Department's Concurrent Program. His goal is to attain his Ph.D. and return to the university as a professor focusing on the cooperative system. The Hadachek family is affiliated with Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Cloud County Cooperative, Farmway Cooperative, CVA and MKC.

The David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship has awarded over \$40,000 since its establishment in 2014. David and Susan Barton came to Kansas State University in 1976 and have been contributing to cooperative education for many years. They are now encouraging the next generation to develop into strong educated leaders.

“The purpose of the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship is to encourage the development of leaders in the agribusiness community,” states Professor Brian Briggeman, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. “It’s also to provide significant financial assistance to eligible students enrolled in educational programs emphasizing these areas of study.”

To be eligible for the David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship, a student must be either a junior or senior in K-State’s College of Agriculture at the time the scholarship is received and be pursuing a degree in Agribusiness or Agricultural Economics. The recipient must also have strong academic performance and be affiliated as a member or as a child or dependent of a member or employee of a company operating on a cooperative basis in the United States (including agricultural, farm credit, credit union, rural electric or rural telephone cooperatives).

The David and Susan Barton Cooperative Leadership Scholarship was established by donations from cooperative leaders as a thank you for their years of service to cooperatives. Additional contributions have been made by David and Susan Barton, family and friends to extend the longevity of the scholarship. “Contributions by those who want to honor David and Susan Barton and support the purposes of the scholarship are welcome,” Dr. Briggeman said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/Barton” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Kansas State University, Department of Agricultural Economics, 342 Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.

### **About the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center**

The Arthur Capper Cooperative Center 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. Further information can be obtained about this scholarship or about establishing

additional scholarships by emailing Brian Briggeman at [bbrigg@ksu.edu](mailto:bbrigg@ksu.edu) or visiting the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center website at <http://acc.k-state.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.

Story by: Arthur Capper Cooperative Center  
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