

Grace Hammer Receives 2016 Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship

October 11, 2016 (MANHATTAN, Kan.) – Grace Hammer of Wallace, Kansas, a senior in agribusiness at Kansas State University, has been awarded the Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Grace is active in the Collegiate Farm Bureau organization and Collegiate Cattle Women's Club, serving as Ag Council Representative. She completed an internship with the National Western Stock Show and was selected as a student fellow for the Center for Risk Management Education and Research. In addition to school, Grace works as an office assistant for the Kansas Agriculture Mediation Services. After her May 2017 graduation, Grace plans to return to Western Kansas and work in agricultural financing or commodities trading while continuing to be a part of the family's farming and ranching operation raising purebred and commercial cattle. The Hammer family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: United Plains Ag, Frontier Ag, Midwest Energy and S&T Communications.

The Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship has awarded over \$65,000 in scholarships since its establishment in 2005. Otis and Mary Lee Molz have been contributing to cooperative organizations, education and development for many years and are respected leaders in the co-op community.

"The scholarship was established to honor and perpetuate the memory of the contribution of Otis and Mary Lee Molz and to encourage an interest in the formation, operation, management, leadership and economics of and participation in all types of cooperatives, including agricultural, financial, electric, telephone, housing and consumer cooperatives," 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 Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative 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 affiliated as a member or as a child or dependent of a member of a Kansas agricultural marketing, supply or service cooperative that is a member of the Kansas Cooperative Council.

The Otis and Mary Lee Molz Cooperative Scholarship is funded by contributions made to the KSU Foundation. Contributions have been made by Otis and Mary Lee Molz, their family and friends in the cooperative community. “Additional contributions by those who want to honor Otis and Mary Lee Molz and support the purposes of the scholarship are welcome,” Dr. Briggeman said. They should be made payable to “KSU Foundation/Molz” and sent to the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center, Kansas State University, Department of Agricultural Economics, 305 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 an interest 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 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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Photo caption is as follows: (left to right) Otis Molz, Grace Hammer and Mary Lee Molz at the K-State Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, October 7, 2016.