Jenna Crampton, Gracie Danner, Maria Kimzey and Clara Wicoff Receive 2019 CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarships

October 25, 2019 (MANHATTAN, Kan.) – Jenna (Crampton) Bowman of Colby, Kansas, a senior in agribusiness; Gracie Danner of West Liberty, Iowa, a senior in agricultural economics; Maria Kimzey of Fredonia, Kansas, a junior in agricultural economics and Clara Wicoff of Iola, Kansas, a senior in agricultural economics and global food systems leadership, have each been awarded the CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarship through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University.

Jenna (Crampton) Bowman is a member of the K-State Collegiate Farm Bureau and works on campus as a student assistant for the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center in the Department of Agricultural Economics. She spent a summer on a custom harvest crew and has interned with the Thomas County Extension Office and PrairieLand Partners. Jenna will graduate in December 2019 and a career goal is to be a loan officer for a farm credit association. The Crampton family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: CVA, Hi-Plains Cooperative Association, Midwest Energy, Inc., S&T Communications and United Ag Service.

Gracie Danner is a College of Agriculture Ambassador and a Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority Philanthropy Chair. She was selected to the Kansas Corn Collegiate Academy, was a National FFA Finalist and an American Star FFA Finalist. Gracie completed an internship with John Deere and has worked for Danner Farms Incorporated & Lehman Show Cattle. Upon graduation in December 2019, she would like to work for an agribusiness or cooperative and eventually return to the family farm. The Danner family is affiliated with the following cooperatives: Consumers Cooperative, Eastern Iowa Rural Electric, Farm Credit Services of America and River Valley Cooperative.

Maria Kimzey is a College of Ag Ambassador and an active member of MANRRS, Minorities in Agriculture, National Resources and Related Sciences. She was selected to participate in the K-State Multicultural Academic Program for Success before officially becoming a K-State student. Maria plans to graduate in December 2021 and would like to pursue a career as a financial officer. The Kimzey family is affiliated with the Radiant Electric Cooperative.
Clara Wicoff serves as a College of Ag Ambassador. She is active in the Cargill Fellows Program, the K-State Center for Risk Management Education and Research Student Fellows Program, the Kansas State University Honors and Integrity Council and Kappa Alpha Theta. Clara has worked for USDA as a STEC CAP intern and in entomological research. She is also a member of the Riley County and City of Manhattan Food and Farm Council. Clara has served as a Kansas legislative intern, a Senate Ag Committee Intern and is currently serving as a legislative fellow for the Kansas Grain and Feed Association.

“The CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarships are one way CoBank contributes to the education of future agricultural leaders, especially those with an interest in careers in finance or banking,” states Professor Brian Briggeman, director of the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. This scholarship has awarded more than $89,000 since 2006. To be eligible for a scholarship, students must be a sophomore, junior or senior in high academic standing in K-State’s Department of Agricultural Economics at the time the scholarship is received. Preference is given to students who are studying agricultural economics or agribusiness, who have demonstrated an interest in pursuing a career in banking or finance, have taken accounting or finance classes and are residents in one of the following states: CA, CO, CT, IA, KS, KY, MO, MN, NE and TX.

The awarding of the CoBank Outstanding Student Scholarships is coordinated through the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center. “Additional contributions by those who want to support the purposes of cooperative scholarships are welcome,” Dr. Briggeman 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, Kansas. 66506.

About CoBank

CoBank is a $139 billion cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. The bank provides commercial loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states. The bank also provides wholesale loans and other financial services to affiliated Farm Credit associations serving more than 70,000 farmers, ranchers and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country.
CoBank is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the borrowing needs of U.S. agriculture, rural infrastructure and rural communities. Headquartered outside Denver, Colorado, CoBank serves customers from regional banking centers across the U.S. and also maintains an international representative office in Singapore.

For more information about CoBank, visit the bank's website at cobank.com.

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 or visiting the Arthur Capper Cooperative Center website at http://accc.k-state.edu/.

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. More information is available at www.ksre.ksu.edu.

Story by: Arthur Capper Cooperative Center
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Photo caption is as follows: (left to right) Clara Wicoff, Maria Kimzey, Jenna (Crampton) Bowman and Tobias Carson - CoBank Senior Relationship Manager at the K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Awards Banquet, October 4, 2019. Not pictured: Gracie Danner