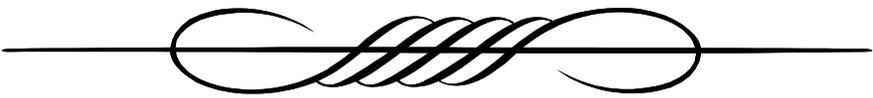


*Holling Family
Award Program*

*Recognizing
Teaching Excellence*

*Wednesday, March 7, 2012
Nebraska East Union
4:00 p.m.*

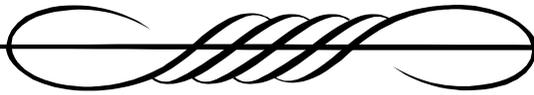


The Holling Family Award Program for Teaching Excellence

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources is proud of its reputation for teaching excellence, and is continually striving to improve its quality. Preparing individuals in the agricultural sciences and natural resources profession for the 21st century requires continuous academic program revitalization, teaching-material development, and teaching enhancement. That is why the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources is pleased to be able to sponsor the Holling Family Award Program for Teaching Excellence in Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Holling Family Award Program for Teaching Excellence was made possible by a gift from the Holling family to honor their pioneer parents. John Holling was a 1912 electrical engineering graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and his brother, Gustave Holling, attended the College of Agriculture before farming the family's land in the Wood River area.

To recognize exceptional teaching in 2012 the Holling Family Award Program provides four Senior Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards, two Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards and two Teaching Assistant Teaching Excellence Awards. Furthermore, these awards honor the legacy of the land grant mission.



The Holling Family Award Program for Teaching Excellence is designed to recognize outstanding contributions by faculty and teaching assistants in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR), UNL Extension—(only faculty in agriculture and natural resources subject areas), and the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA). Faculty recipients must hold faculty appointments in CASNR, UNL Extension, or NCTA.

There are three annual award categories:

Senior Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards recognize individuals who have been employed in faculty positions with the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) or the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) for more than six years.

Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards recognize individuals who have been employed in faculty positions with IANR or NCTA for six years or less.

Teaching Assistant Teaching Excellence Awards recognize students who are currently in graduate degree programs under the supervision of IANR faculty members involved with agricultural sciences and natural resources.

All three award categories emphasize imaginative and creative teaching efforts in carrying out IANR educational programs. Levels of teaching can include college campus, external campus, or community.

Nominations may be made by peers and/or administrators who feel a particular individual's effort is deserving of special recognition. The selection committee considers: (1) identification of the innovative teaching project; (2) goals of the project, target audience, numbers involved, other colleagues involved and time line; (3) outcomes of teaching activity on learners and types of learner activities utilized; and (4) evidence of peer evaluation.

Matthew L. Spangler

*Assistant Professor in the Animal Science Department
Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award*

Matthew Spangler is the coordinator of the Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars (NBIS) program, an undergraduate certificate program drawing students from multiple majors across the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. In addition to coordinating the entire program, Spangler teaches the sophomore/junior industry tour, recruits students to the program and secures funding.

Faculty from the departments of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication, Agricultural Economics, Animal Science and the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences teach various courses that comprise the 18-credit NBIS curriculum. Spangler and the instructors review and assess the entire program each spring semester to promote coordination among freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes, their goals and activities.

Students apply and are admitted in the fall of their freshman year. Each semester following, these students are together in a different course that is part of NBIS through their senior year. Many issue-based courses, an internship experience, a course to develop and host a Nebraska Beef Summit, a policy course, trips to Nebraska Cattlemen and National Cattlemen Beef Association meetings, and networking with Nebraska and national industry leaders contribute to this unique learning and leadership development experience with an emphasis in written and oral communications. Students graduating from NBIS are highly aware of the complexities and issues in the beef industry, realize the network of people that are leaders, and see how to be involved to create positive change.

Each year, an average of 16-17 freshmen students are admitted into the NBIS program and 12-13 seniors graduate. The first class started in spring 2007, and a new class of 18 started in 2012. Students in the fall senior NBIS class develop and host a Beef Summit attended by 100 beef industry leaders from across Nebraska. Most speakers are nationally known; and the 2009, 2010 and 2011 Summit attendees rated the quality of the Summit very high.

A native of Walton, KS, Spangler obtained a B.S. in Animal Science from Kansas State University in 2001. He obtained an M.S. from Iowa State University in 2003 in Animal Breeding and Genetics, followed by a Ph.D. in 2006 from the University of Georgia in Animal Breeding and Genetics. In January 2008, Spangler joined the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.