

CURRENT AWARD WINNERS – SPRING 2022



Agricultural Engineering Technology Student of the Year: Kyle Leis

- Kyle is a Junior student studying Agricultural Engineering Technology at UW-River Falls
- He is a member of the UW-River Falls ASABE Student Chapter and UWRF Falcon Pullers Quarter-Scale Tractor Team



Biological Systems Engineering Student of the Year: Jordan Main

- Jordan is a Senior studying Biological Systems Engineering at UW-Madison and is also pursuing certificates in Environmental Studies and Religious Studies
- She is President of the UW-Madison ASABE Student Chapter and has worked as a Teaching Assistant for 3 years



Biological Systems Engineering Graduate Student of the Year: Keagan Blazer

- Keagan is pursuing a M.S. Degree in Biological Systems Engineering under the mentorship of Dr. Matthew Digman and Dr. Kevin Shinnars
- Her research objective focuses on processes to separate grain from stover after these materials have been co-stored and conserved using anaerobic fermentation for use in biofuels or bioproducts
- She has been an active member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Women in Scientific Education and Research (WISER) and plans to continue support young women to pursue careers in STEM
- Keagan has accepted a position as an Advanced Division Engineer for the Separation and Purification Sciences Division at 3M and will be starting there in June!



Young Engineer Award: **Shane Williams**

- Shane is a Design Engineer at Kuhn North America, Inc. in Brodhead, WI responsible for Hay Tool Technologies
- His 10+ years of work at Kuhn has resulted in three patents and two AE50 Awards
- Shane has been extremely involved in ASABE as a member for 15 years
- At the national level he has participated in several Committees, the Board of Trustees, the Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference – Planning Committee, and has been a staple in the Young Professional Community
- Shane has also supported students and young professionals by delivering guest-lectures at UW-Madison, serving on the Babcock House Cooperative Alumni Board of Directors, supporting the UW-Madison ¼ Scale Tractor Design Team, and advocating for student involvement in ASABE.



Career Achievement Award: **Scott Mueller**

- Scott is a Civil Engineer and Assistant State Conservation Engineer with the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service providing engineering assistance on projects related to hydrology, hydraulics, soil materials, geology, and structural design
- He has participated in several ASABE Committees and is a regular attendee of the Annual International Meeting (AIM)
- He is a licensed Professional Engineer (PE) and has continued to promote increased PE licensing within the profession
- Scott has mentored students in the UW-Madison Senior Design Capstone Experience for almost 20 years



Wayne G. Russell Award: Robert Fick

- Bob worked at Alliant Energy for 21 years as an Agricultural Engineer in the Ag Compliance Department. At Alliant Energy, Bob:
 - Oversaw the Agricultural Representatives—providing them with technical support for Stray Voltage analysis.
 - Championed the formation of the Alliant Energy Farm Wiring Program which helped farm customers to update wiring to be code compliant.
- Bob was a board member of the Midwest Rural Energy Council (MREC) for several years:
 - He was involved in planning yearly conferences.
 - He was a member of the team responsible for revising the MREC Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) brochure and Lighting Section of the latest edition of the Midwest Plan Service.
 - He served on the code panel that oversees the updates to the National Electric Code.
 - Has taught all levels of the UW-Extension Stray Voltage Investigators Course.
- Prior to his career at Alliant Energy Bob studied the effect stray voltage has on animal behavior at Michigan State University.