

CAPS News - April 22, 2020.

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Apri, 22, 2022



## Vet Med Receives \$4,000 USDA/SARE Grant

by Kelley Tuel

CAPS Veterinary Medicine course has received \$4,000 for a Youth Educator grant from the [North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program for 2020-2021](#). It is funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, a division of the USDA. This program strives to “provide opportunities for youth to learn about Sustainable Agriculture – farming and ranching that is ecologically sound, profitable, and socially responsible.” Projects chosen are those which especially display groundbreaking education which is exactly what is going on in CAPS Vet Med.

The Vet Med course has an ongoing “Going Hog Wild: Pig Project” which is a sustainable agriculture project pasture raising pigs. Students manage all aspects of pork production including nutrition, breeding, farrowing (birthing), piglet processing (castrations, ear notching), and readying the feeder pigs for market. Each Vet Med and CAPStone Vet Med student regularly interacts with the pigs to feed, care for, and socialize them. We vaccinate and deworm as necessary. This January, students participated in artificially inseminating the two sows to prepare the sounder (herd) for the next school year. Students learn and

enrichment with nut trees and grasses to forage, plus apple snacks and butt rubs from the CAPS students! Our favorite thing is to rub bellies until the pigs fall over in bliss.

This is CAPS fifth year raising pigs. With mentor, Dave Swickard, CAPS co-owns a boar and two sows . We currently have four feeder pigs which are nearly ready for market. This project would not have even been possible without the mentorship, land allocation, and hard work from Swickard Family Farm.

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## Alumni Update

CAPS Vet Med alumni Kate Lewis and Jake Seager have joined the inaugural cohort of **Food Security Scholars** at Kansas State University. The FSS mission is 'Empowering scholars by fostering curiosity and community to make progress toward a food secure world.' Members of the group will have opportunities to gain firsthand experience working with community partners and leaders around the topic of food security.

Kate has also been accepted in the prestigious **Borlaug-Ruan International Internship** program. The internship provides students a unique professional experience working with world-renowned scientists and policymakers at leading research and development organizations around the world. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the 2021 Borlaug-Ruan Internships will be offered as virtual, remote work internship experiences. Assignments have not been finalized, but Kate will likely be working with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya. To be eligible for the internship, a student must have participated in a World Food Prize Youth Institute. CAPS students have the opportunity to participate in the World Food Prize Youth Institute in both Future of Food and Vet Med II courses.

## Purchase CAPS Berkshire Pork



You are invited to take advantage of a great opportunity to support the CAPS Veterinary Medicine program by purchasing premium, field-raised Berkshire pork.

**Approximate Cost:** The final cost is based on (1) the weight of the hog and (2) the cost of processing. We charge \$2.00/pound hanging weight and estimate 75 pounds for ½ hog. This fee of approximately \$200 is payable to CAPS VetMed. Hogs are delivered to Steve's in

Desoto for processing per your specifications. The processing cost is \$150-\$200 depending

**What you get:** A half pig will provide around 2 bacon ends, 7 one pound packages bacon, 16 one pound packages sausage, 1 ham, 2 pork roasts, 4 packages pork chops, spare ribs, pork bones & ham hocks. You will be able to select how your pig is processed (e.g. smoking, curing, spice, chop thickness, etc.). More importantly, your purchase will help fund next year's pig project. Our goal of pork sales is to break even, allowing this extremely valuable learning experience to continue. [Click here](#) for more information or email [Kelley Tuel](#).

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### CAPS Engineering: DITEQ Saw Cart



**DITEQ** is one of our long-term Engineering business partners. Each semester DITEQ presents our students with a problem and this semester was no exception.

*The challenge:* DITEQ sold a gasoline-powered saw/cart combination. Unfortunately, not all customers wanted a gas-powered saw. DITEQ also offered electric saws, but they were not compatible with the current cart. Students were asked to modify the existing cart to accommodate the electric saw.

*The solution:* The student team created a clamp that allowed the electric saw to attach to the existing cart. The team prototyped two clamps. They tested both and

utilized a decision matrix to land on the final recommendation.

The project allowed students to put the design process into use and to see the results of their efforts in the marketplace. Thank you DITEQ!

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### Alumni Cultivate Spring Speakers Series

CAPS alums have an awesome line up for their Cultivate Spring Speaker series happening Friday, April 30th. Alums will virtually connect with current students to talk about how CAPS has impacted their career journey and to offer advice and mentorship. Check out their [bios and agenda](#) for more details. If you would like to connect with other alums and to be part of the mentorship program, please contact [Jenna Felsen](#).

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The CPS Foundation generously offers a \$1,000 annual scholarships to CAPS students the Medicine & Healthcare and Business, Technology & Media strands. This year's recipients are Julia Havens and Cole Miller. Julia was a Fall Clinical Experience: CNA student and Cole is a 3rd semester in Digital Design & Photography. Congratulations to Julia and Cole.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 27**

**Degree in 3 Info Session #1**  
**4:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

The Degree in 3 program encourages students to complete college credit courses while in high school, and if they complete enough college credit, they could graduate with a bachelor's degree 3 years after graduating high school. [Click here](#) to learn more. [Click here](#) to join the information session.

**May 5**

**Degree in 3 Info Session #2**  
**5:00 PM to 6:00 PM**

The Degree in 3 program encourages students to complete college credit courses while in high school, and if they complete enough college credit, they could graduate with a bachelor's degree 3 years after graduating high school. [Click here](#) to learn more. [Click here](#) to join the information session.

**May 19**

**CNA Virtual Pinning**  
**7:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

The *CAPS CNA Pinning Ceremony* marks the successful completion of the Foundations of Medicine Research & Innovation course. During this event, the students receive a nursing assistant pin which can then become a part of their work uniform. This celebration is open to students, families and business partners. A Zoom link will be provided.

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