

From the Dean and Director



John Floros (left), dean of the College of Agriculture and director of K-State Research and Extension, and Bikram Gill, university distinguished professor of plant pathology, acknowledge the establishment of the Bikram S. Gill Chair in Wheat Genetics.

As the spring semester winds down, I would like to share a few of our exciting accomplishments.

President Kirk Schulz recently announced the university-wide initiative on global food systems to meet the needs of a growing population using less land and fewer natural resources. The College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension play a huge role in the success of this initiative.

We have a national and — in some cases international — reputation in crop improvement and crop disease prevention and protection; animal agriculture; environmental issues, especially those related to water quality and quantity; food and feed safety efforts; and agribusiness expertise.

Our proficiency in value-added food and agriculture programs enables us to work closely with industry partners to prepare tomorrow's leaders. For example, the new O.H. Kruse Feed Technology Innovation Center allows our students to conduct experiments and work in a world-class feed manufacturing facility.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded K-State more than \$27 million to establish Feed the Future Innovation Labs for Collaborative Research on

Sorghum and Millet, Applied Wheat Genomics, and the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss.

In addition, K-State is taking the lead on the first crops center created by the National Science Foundation — the NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Center Wheat Genetics Resource Center. These agreements involve multiple partnerships with industry, the USDA, and universities in the United States and around the world.

Most importantly, these partnerships integrate well with existing research, teaching, and extension efforts. Undergraduate and graduate students work side-by-side with scientists and faculty on global issues, and the research applies directly to the five grand challenges facing Kansas — global food systems, water, health, developing tomorrow's leaders, and community vitality.

I would like to congratulate our students, faculty, and alumni for their achievements and willingness to share their expertise with others.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Floros".

John D. Floros
Dean and Director

AgReport

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and
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