

NEWS

College of Agriculture

Agronomy Professor Receives Diversity Award

STORY BY **ASHTON BRUNK**



Kevin Donnelly

Encouraging and supporting diversity and inclusion in the College of Agriculture at K-State is something that Kevin Donnelly, professor of agronomy, has made a priority during his time teaching at Kansas State University. Donnelly is the 2021 recipient of the Wallace Kidd Memorial Diversity Award, which recognizes faculty, staff and students for their efforts in supporting equity diversity and inclusion on the K-State campus and in the community.

When Donnelly became assistant dean in 1998, he says that in terms of diverse enrollment, the college was struggling. Donnelly learned about the MANRRS program and in 2003, he helped charter the MANRRS chapter at K-State. He served as chapter adviser before welcoming Zelia Wiley, assistant dean of diversity and the MANRRS club adviser.

“We have a very student-focused program here at K-State,” Donnelly says. “It’s the reason I came here in the first place and it’s the reason that I’ve stayed this long.”

Since returning to the agronomy department in 2008, Donnelly has supported several programs focused on diversity recruitment such as the Kauffman Scholars, a program that works with students and their families to complete post-secondary education.

“Our biggest challenge still is recruiting enough students,” Donnelly says. “We have a lot of international students in the agronomy department, but domestic minority students are still very underrepresented.”

Donnelly says he is honored by the award. Donnelly says, “I haven’t done nearly what I could have, but this award has certainly inspired me to do more and keep the topic of diversity front and center in recruitment and day to day teaching as well.”

Student Recognized for Leadership Among International Community

STORY BY **GRACE JACOBSON**



Linda Hamuli

Every year the Kansas State Alumni Association awards four international students across the entire university with the International Leadership award. This year Linda Hamuli, fourth year student in food science and industry and from the Republic of the Congo, was one of the four recipients.

This award is given to graduating students who have shown outstanding leadership and involvement within the international community at K-State.

Humali has held the multicultural chair for the Union Programming Council and the social chair for the African Student Union. Humali is the first College of Agriculture student to receive this award since 2015.

“I am thankful that I even got nominated for this award,” Humali says. “Ever since I got to K-State, I have been helping with things on campus that bring students joy. I am happy that my efforts didn’t go forgotten, and I hope this inspires other students to be more involved on campus.”

The recipients of the International Leadership award were honored through livestreams on the Alumni Associations social media platforms on May 4, 2021.