Advancing Georgia’s Leaders in Agriculture and Forestry (AGL) empowers today’s professionals in agriculture, forestry, natural resources and allied sectors to be dynamic industry leaders.

A program of the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, AGL provides:

- Cutting-edge knowledge of emerging industry issues and trends.
- An understanding of political and agricultural systems.
- Industry connections with peers and leaders throughout Georgia.
- Multi-faceted leadership development.
- Executive coaching.

Each AGL class is customized to include emerging industry issues and trends while meeting the desired leadership development needs of the selected program participants.

The 2015-2017 class is designed as an 18-month program, beginning in August, that includes an optional, six-day international experience to Costa Rica. The curriculum, a total of 21 days, is designed with a variety of interactive sessions, including personality inventories, media training and team building, all focusing on professional leadership development. External experiences that expand participants’ industry networks are interwoven throughout the curriculum, which incorporates on-site experiences, small group discussions, guest speakers, expert panels, simulations, tours and reflection. Sessions are designed to allow participants the opportunity to interact with private business leaders, government leaders, state and federal agency personnel, and university faculty and staff.
2015-2017 Participants

**Danielle Atkins**
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*Occupation:*
Management Forester, Georgia Forestry Commission

*Education:*
B.S.F.R. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia
M.F.R. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia

*Leadership Activities:*
Brunswick Chapter Chair, Society of American Foresters; District Water Quality Coordinator, Georgia Forestry Commission; Softball Coach, Glynn County Recreation Department; Past Member, Georgia Forestry Association; Past Secretary, Blue Key Honor Society

*Leadership Inspiration:*
“Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you.”
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Mallory Black**
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*Occupation:*
Industry Relations Representative, Georgia Federal-State Inspection Service (GAFSIS)

*Education:*
B.S.A. (Agriculture), University of Georgia

*Leadership Activities:*
Spokesperson, GAFSIS Grading Equipment Committee; Spokesperson/Secretary, GAFSIS Recruitment Initiative; Delegate, Second Congressional Republican Party

*Leadership Inspiration:*
“Speak in such a way that others love to listen to you. Listen in such a way that others love to speak to you.”
~Unknown

**Chris Baumann**
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*Occupation:*
Region Supervisor, Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division

*Education:*
B.S., Clemson University
M.S., University of Georgia

*Leadership Activities:*
Supervisor of 15 game-management staff members, managing natural resources over a 32-county area of southeast Georgia; Leader, Lothair United Methodist Church youth group

*Leadership Inspiration:*
“A good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame, and a little less than his share of the credit.”
~John C. Maxwell

**Shane Boyer**
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*Occupation:*
Vice President, AgSouth Farm Credit

*Education:*
B.S.F.R. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia

*Leadership Activities:*
Trustee, Georgia Forestry Association’s Georgia Forestry Foundation; Emerging Leaders Group, Georgia Forestry Association; Member, Clarke-Oconee Cattlemen’s Association; Advisory Board Member, Greene-Morgan Forest Landowners Association

*Leadership Inspiration:*
“Leaders think and talk about the solutions. Followers think and talk about the problems.”
~Brian Tracy
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**Occupation:**
Owner, Braxton Farms LLC

**Education:**
B.S.A, (Animal Science), University of Georgia
B.S.A, (Dairy Science), University of Georgia
minor: Agribusiness

**Leadership Activities:**
Member/Convention Delegate, Crisp County Chapter of Georgia Young Farmers; Advisory Board Member, University of Georgia CAES Alumni Association; Member, O’Neal Historic Board; Secretary, Georgia Aquaculture Association

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”

~Harry S. Truman

Becca Creasy
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**Occupation:**
Territory Sales Manager, Monsanto Company

**Education:**
B.S., University of Florida
M.S., North Carolina State University

**Leadership Activities:**
Finalist, Monsanto Business Innovation Ideas; Finalist, Monsanto Master Sales, University of Florida; College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Participant, Leadership Exchange Cohort–Monsanto; Membership and Scholarship Committee Member, Georgia Seedsmen’s Association; Participant, Women’s Fresh Perspective–United Fresh; Past Ambassador, University of Florida College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Past State Vice President, Florida FFA

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“Generosity and humility should be built in, not tacked on.”

~Unknown

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**Occupation:**
Broiler Manager, Columbia Farms of Georgia

**Education:**
Jackson County Comprehensive High School

**Leadership Activities:**
Chairman, Jackson County Board of Education

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”

~John Quincy Adams

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**Occupation:**
Technical Sales Representative, Verdesian Life Sciences; Farmer

**Education:**
A.S., Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
B.S., University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Executive Board Member, Georgia Young Farmers Association; President, Alabama Crop Management Association; Member, Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni Board

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way.”

~General George S. Patton
Amelia Dortch
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**Occupation:**
State Public Affairs Specialist, U. S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

**Education:**
B.A., University of Georgia
M.P.A. (Public Administration), University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Communications Committee Member, National Association of Professional Black NRCS Employees

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”
~John C. Maxwell

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**Occupation:**
Service Manager, Kubota Tractor Corporation

**Education:**
B.A.E., University of Minnesota

**Leadership Activities:**
Lead, Service Tool Committee; Member, Turf Development Team; Member, Utility Task Vehicle Development Team

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves.”
~Lao Tzu

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**Occupation:**
Forester

**Education:**
B.S., University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Past President, Eastman Rotary Club; Past Chair, Eastman Dodge County Chamber of Commerce; Vice Chair of the Administrative Council, Eastman First United Methodist Church; Member, Georgia Sustainable Forest Initiative Sustainability Implementation Committee; Member, Georgia Forestry Association

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“I made a resolve then that I was going to amount to something if I could. And no hours, nor amount of labor, nor amount of money would deter me from giving the best that there was in me. And I have done that ever since, and I win by it. I know.”
~KFC Founder, Harland Sanders

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**Occupation:**
Purchasing Manager, Carroll Electric Membership Corporation

**Education:**
Certificate in Management, University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Mentor, Middle/High School Students; Director, Young Farmers; President, Heard County Cattlemen; Vice President, Georgia Rural Electrical Material Managers Association; Agriculture Committee Member, Carroll County Extension; Agriculture Committee Member, Chamber of Commerce; Advisory Committee, Central High School

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“Learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, living to serve.”
~FFA Motto
Jeff Jordan
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Occupation:
Vice President for Forest Technology,
F&W Forestry Services, Inc.

Education:
B.S.F.R. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia
M.S., University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Past Coach, YMCA Youth Soccer; Past Assistant, Little
League SAF

Leadership Inspiration:
“I don’t lose any sleep at night over the potential for
failure. I cannot even spell the word.”
~General James Mattis, USMC

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Occupation:
Communications Director,
Association Services Group, LLC

Education:
B.S. (Agricultural Communication), University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Committee Member, University of Georgia CAES Alumni
Association; Worship Leader, First Baptist Church, LaGrange

Leadership Inspiration:
“Do not let anyone look down on you because you are
young, but set an example for others in speech, in
conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.”
~1 Timothy 4:12

Jeff Manley
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Occupation:
General Manager and Co-founder,
The Rock Ranch

Education:
B.A., Berry College

Leadership Activities:
Deacon, First Baptist Church of Barnesville; Trustee,
Gordon College; Appointed Member, Board Member,
Georgia Tourism Foundation, Central Georgia Community
Foundation; Founding Vice Chair, Barnesville/Lamar
Community Foundation; Founding President, Georgia
Agritourism Association; Member, University of Georgia
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Dean’s
Advisory Council

Leadership Inspiration:
“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.”
~Proverbs 22:1

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Occupation: Assistant Director, Plant
Licensing for University of Georgia
Innovation Gateway (UGA Research
Foundation)

Education:
B.S.A. (Horticulture), University of Georgia
M.A.L. (Agricultural Leadership), University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Elder and Membership and Outreach Committee Chair,
Antioch Christian Church; Co-chair of the Public Affairs
Committee, University of Georgia College of Agricultural
and Environmental Sciences Alumni Association;
Scholarship Advisor, Oconee 4-H Program Development
Team; Head Coach, Oconee County Little League; Assistant
Coach, Oconee County Youth Football League

Leadership Inspiration:
“Leadership is influence.”
~John C. Maxwell
**Anna McIntyre**
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**Occupation:**
Director of Events and Member Relations, Georgia Agribusiness Council

**Education:**
B.S.A. (Agriculture), University of Georgia  
Minor: Horticulture  
Certificate in Agricultural Leadership and Service, University of Georgia  
Current graduate student, Agricultural and Environmental Education, University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Alumna, Leadership Crisp; Agricultural Advisory Committee Member, Athens Technical College; Student Recruitment Committee Member, University of Georgia CAES Alumni Association

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“May you stay alive as long as you live.”  
~J.W. Fanning

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**Regina Morgan**
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**Occupation:**
Director of Communications, Peeples Industries, Inc.

**Education:**
Legal Assistant Technical Certificate, Waycross-Ware Tech Technical College

**Leadership Activities:**
Alumna, Leadership Waycross; Fundraising Committee Member, Urban Hope; Past President, Rotary Club Ware County; Member, Georgia Economic Development Association; Member, International Economic Development Council; Partner, World Trade Center Savannah

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“The dream is free, but the hustle is sold separately.”  
~Unknown

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**Jay Murdock**
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**Occupation:**
Director of Member Services, Georgia Farm Bureau

**Education:**
B.B.A. (Business Administration), Mercer University  
M.B.A. (Business Administration), Kennesaw State University

**Leadership Activities:**
Leadership and implementation of new initiatives at Georgia Farm Bureau; Member, Georgia Farm Bureau Federation; Member, American Farm Bureau Federation

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn’t mind who gets credit.”  
~Ronald Reagan

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**Lanie Riner**
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**Occupation:**
President and Head Grower, Thunderwood Farms

**Education:**
B.S. (Horticulture) University of Georgia

**Leadership Activities:**
Board of Directors, Georgia Green Industry Association; Board of Directors, Center for Applied Nursery Research; Horticulture Advisory Board Member, Southern Crescent Technical College

**Leadership Inspiration:**
“Great leaders don’t set out to be a leader … they set out to make a difference. It’s never about the role – always about the goal.”  
~Lisa Haisha
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Occupation:
Director of Constituent Services,
Georgia Department of Agriculture

Education:
B.S.A. (Agriculture), University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Advisory Board Member, University of Georgia CAES
Alumni Association

Leadership Inspiration:
“Bloom where you are planted.”
~Saint Francis de Sales

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Occupation:
Dairy Farmer, Sidwell & Son Dairy

Education:
B.S. (Poultry Science), University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Finance Committee Chair, Apalachee Baptist Church;
Building Committee Member, Alpha Gamma Rho; Past
Young Farmer Chair, Morgan County Farm Bureau; Past
Vice President, Morgan County Farm Service Agency; Past
Vice President, Morgan County Cattlemen’s Association

Leadership Inspiration:
“Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test
a man’s character, give him power.”
~President Abraham Lincoln

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Occupation:
Appraisal Services Manager, Forest Resource Consultants, Inc.

Education:
B.S. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia
M.F.R. (Forest Resources), University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Gubernatorial Board Appointee, Georgia Board of
Registration for Foresters; Georgia Board of Directors and
Past President, American Society of Farm Managers and
Rural Appraisers; Member and Past Chapter Chair, Society
of American Foresters; Member and Past Emerging Leaders
Group Chairman, Georgia Forestry Association

Leadership Inspiration:
“Anyone can steer the ship, but it takes a leader to chart
the course.”
~John C. Maxwell

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Occupation:
Account Manager, CNI

Education:
B.S. (Agribusiness) University of Georgia
M.P.P.M. (Plant Protection and Pest Management),
University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Board Member, Georgia Crop Production Alliance;
Member, National Peanut Buying Point Association;
Member, Georgia Plant Food Education Society

Leadership Inspiration:
“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage
is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”
~Winston Churchill
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Occupation:
Director, Advancing Georgia’s Leaders in Agriculture and Forestry

Education:
B.S.A. (Agriculture), University of Georgia
Interdisciplinary Certificate of Leadership and Service, University of Georgia
M.Ed. (Education), University of Georgia
Ph.D. (Adult Education), University of Georgia
Interdisciplinary Certificate of Qualitative Research, Certificate of Human Resources and Organizational Development, University of Georgia

Leadership Activities:
Leadership Specialist, Cooperative Extension; Treasurer, University Woman’s Club; Executive Committee, Georgia 4-H Foundation Gala; Alumna, Leadership Oconee; Past Trustee, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Leadership Inspiration:
“How do not wait on a leader, look in the mirror … it is you!”
~Katherine Miracle

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Occupation:
Small Farmer

Education:
B.A., Wilkes College
Alumnus, Southern University Small Farm Leadership Institute

Leadership Activities:
Board Secretary, Georgia Organics; Chair of Programs and Advocacy Committee, Advisory Council Member, Chair of the Minority and Limited Resource Committee, Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program; Founder, Georgia Farmers Market Association

Leadership Inspiration:
“Chance favors the prepared mind.”
~Louis Pasteur
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