

AGL

Advancing Georgia's Leaders
in Agriculture and Forestry

Program Brief & Directory 2015-2017

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First Row (left-right): Anna McIntyre, Jenna Saxon, Danielle Atkins, Mallory Black; Second Row (left-right): Becca Creasey, Lanie Riner, Samantha Kilgore, Regina Morgan, Amelia Dortch, Ashely Buford; Third Row (left-right): Brent Marable, Mike Harrell, Brian Stone, Jay Murdock, Jeff Manley; Fourth Row (left-right): Jeff Jordan, Michael Cronin, Kyle Hagen, David Huddleston, Chris Baumann, Shane Boyer, Jason Sidwell; Not pictured: Stan Deal and Brennan Washington

The Program

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.

Study and Travel

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

315 Live Oak Lane
Brunswick, Georgia 31523
hernandez4440@gmail.com
706.631.4440



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

Chris Baumann

1773-A Bowen's Mill Highway
Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750
chris.baumann@dnr.state.ga.us
229.426.5267



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

Mallory Black

951 Pecan Grove Drive
Albany, Georgia 31708
mblack@gafsis.com
229.942.8338



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

Shane Boyer

1691 Lions Club Road
Madison, Georgia 30650
sboyer@agsouthfc.com
770.584.0725



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

Ashley Buford

P.O. Box 5003
Cordele, Georgia 31010
buford.braxton@gmail.com
229.886.1010

**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

P.O. Box 389
Lyons, Georgia 30436
rebecca.hamilton.creasy@monsanto.com
785.477.0805

**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

Michael Cronic

551 Jesse Cronic Road
Braselton, Georgia 30517
michael.cronic@houseofraeford.com
706.654.6754

**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

Stan Deal

5604 Brackin Road
Donalsonville, Georgia 39845
stan.deal@vlsci.com
229.309.9160

**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

3381 Skyway Drive
Auburn, Alabama 36831
amelia.hines@al.usda.gov
770.312.5499

**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

Kyle Hagen

2142 Abby Lane NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30345
kyle.hagen@kubota.com
310.713.3942

**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

Mike Harrell

P.O. Box 577
Eastman, Georgia 31023
mlharrelljr@hotmail.com
478.374.4776

**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

David Huddleston

155 N Highway 113
Carrollton, Georgia 30117
david.huddleston@cemc.com
404.535.1110

**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

1310 West Oakridge Drive
Albany, Georgia 31706
jjordan@FwForestry.com
229.344.4534

**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

Samantha Kilgore

P.O. Box 2945
LaGrange, Georgia 30241
skilgore@asginfo.net
229.392.4874

**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

5020 Barnesville Highway
The Rock, Georgia 30285
manley@therockranch.com
706.647.6374

**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

Brent Marable

1690 Watson Springs Road
Watkinsville, Georgia 30677
marable@uga.edu
706.542.5942



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

P.O. Box 119
Commerce, Georgia 30529
amcintyre@ga-agribusiness.org
770.851.5351

**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

Regina Morgan

708 E. 49th Street
Savannah, Georgia 31402
rmorgan@peeplesind.com
912.282.3003

**Occupation:**

Director of Communications, Peoples Industries, Inc.

Education:

Legal Assistant Technical Certificate, Waycross-Ware 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

Jay Murdock

1620 Bass Road
Macon, Georgia 31210
jdmurdock@gfb.org
478.951.3673

**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

Lanie Riner

13488 Highway 85
Woodbury, Georgia 30293
lriner@thunderwoodfarms.com
706.553.2281

**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

Jenna Saxon

19 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
jenna.saxon@agr.georgia.gov
706.202.8207

**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

Jason Sidwell

1311 Apalachee Road
Madison, Georgia 30650
sidwelldairy@yahoo.com
706.818.8932

**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

Brian Stone

717 North Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31211
bstone@frcemail.com
478.737.6945

**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

Nathan Tyson

620 N. Ridge Avenue
Tifton, Georgia 31794
ntyson@cniag.com
912.690.1917

**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

Brennan Washington

1180 Hiram Davis Road
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30045
brennan@phoenixgardens.net
770.616.4686

**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

Program Director

Lauren Griffeth

314 Hoke Smith Building
Athens, Georgia 30602
lauren1@uga.edu
706.542.4753

**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:

"Do not wait on a leader, look in the mirror ... it is you!"

~Katherine Miracle

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For more information, please contact:

Dr. Lauren Griffeth, Director
706.542.4753 · lauren1@uga.edu

314 Hoke Smith Building
Athens, GA 30602
agl.caes.uga.edu · agl@uga.edu



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The University of Georgia

WARNELL



SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES