



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights. Compiled by Kasey Brown.

Entering the real world

The first step to entering the “real world” is having an arsenal of tools that enable you to promote yourself professionally. It can be challenging to get involved in several different organizations at school while still maintaining coursework and remaining active on the farm. However, when it comes time to give that “elevator speech” and promote yourself to a potential employer, extracurricular activities become crucial.

Get involved now

I will soon be finishing up my college career and heading into the real world. While I am searching for the career path that best



Jessica Radcliffe

suits me, I have discovered the true benefit of my past involvements. When participating in different activities throughout high school and college, the end result can be hard to visualize. I see the benefits now, and I cannot emphasize enough how

important it is to get involved.

We are told throughout our lives to get involved. Although it can be somewhat annoying to hear it all the time — trust me — there are benefits in the end. Find clubs and organizations that interest you. You don't have to be in every organization on campus, but find one or two that you truly enjoy and that will allow you to develop and grow as a young professional. Don't just be a member, be an active member. Attaining a leadership position or contributing to a committee can boost the power of your résumé.

In addition, take advantage of what your

35 Keys to Success

Industry Involvement & Networking

university has to offer, such as career centers, mock interviews and career fairs. I was always scared to step foot in the career center, but this year I finally did. When I got done with the mock interview and the résumé critique, I was somewhat surprised. I had been doing many things right, but also found out many ways I could improve. Finding someone to do an interview with is a great way to get ready for a stressful moment in your life — getting the job.

The most important thing you can do to promote yourself is to be prepared in regard to your résumé and your interviewing skills. It is important to be able to communicate your strengths and abilities, in addition to having an awesome résumé. Communication is a very important and difficult skill that takes a lot of practice to master.

Young professionals in agriculture have bright futures ahead. Employers love talking to and working with an individual who has hands-on experience with raising livestock. Employers know that your work ethic and your dedication are unmatched. They will realize that you are willing to put in the time

and effort to get the job done. The combination of extracurricular activities and your involvement on the farm will ultimately top off your résumé, giving you the extra boost needed to impress an employer.

Being a well-rounded individual and finding your niche is a great way to set yourself up for entering the real world!

— Jessica Radcliffe, Wisconsin

Tanner Hash earns National Junior Recognition Program Silver Award

Tanner Hash, Archer City, Texas, has earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Silver Award, reports Jaclyn Upperman, events and education director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo.

The 19-year-old son of John and Leslie Hash attends Howard College and is a member of the NJAA and the Texas Junior Angus Association, which he has served as director and currently serves as historian.

He has participated in local and state shows and showmanship contests. He also participated in the 2012 Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

Hash has submitted weight data to Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) and is actively involved with his local FFA and 4-H club.

The Silver Award is the second level of the National Junior Recognition Program (NJRP) that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the award, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

Scholarships from Accelerated Genetics

Youth are the foundation and next generation of agriculture. Accelerated Genetics is excited to provide the following scholarships to its customers' families to ensure agriculture's bright future.

Youth scholarship

Accelerated Genetics awards four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors planning

NJAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TERMS UP IN 2015

CORY WATT, South Carolina, **chairman**, jcwatt@g.clemson.edu
SHANE KERNER, Idaho, **vice chairman**, skcattleco@icloud.com
TYLEE JO WILLIAMS, Texas, **communications director**, williams@ttu.edu
WILL FISKE, Virginia, **Foundation director**, willf3@vt.edu
JESSICA RADCLIFFE, Wisconsin, **leadership director**, radclff2@illinois.edu
LINDSAY UPPERMAN, Pennsylvania, **membership director**, lupperman20@gmail.com

TERMS UP IN 2016

MICHAEL CROPP, Maryland, mscropp@ksu.edu
LAUREN GRIMES, Ohio, l-grimes@onu.edu
JAKE HEIMSOTH, Missouri, jacob2626.JH@gmail.com
ALEX ROGEN, South Dakota, alex.rogen@jacks.sdstate.edu
KATLYN TUNSTILL, Arkansas, katy.tunstill@okstate.edu
EVAN WOODBURY, Kansas, evanwoodbury16@ksu.edu

 **NJAA ON FACEBOOK:**
<http://on.fb.me/p2sldu>

Visit the NJAA web site
at www.njaa.info.

to major in agriculture at a short course, vocational-technical college or a four-year university. Any high school senior who has participated in FFA, 4-H, any of the various breed organizations or any other agricultural organizations is eligible to apply.

Download an application from www.accelgen.com/Scholarships.aspx, call 1-800-451-9275 or email scholarships@accelgen.com. The application deadline is Feb. 15, 2015.

Collegiate scholarship

Two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to students currently enrolled in a short course, vocational-technical college or a four-year university degree program. Supported by Accelerated Genetics, the collegiate program is available to individuals who are currently in their freshman, sophomore or junior year and are majoring in any agricultural field.

This scholarship program is managed by the National FFA Foundation.

This scholarship application can only be completed online at www.ffa.org. Click on the "Programs" link and then the "Scholarship" link. The application deadline is Feb. 1, 2015. (Required signature page must be mailed and postmarked no later than Feb. 8, 2015.)

Applicants or their parents must be currently active customers of Accelerated Genetics to be eligible for both types of scholarships.

NCBA and PLC accepting summer internship applications

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association's and the Public Lands Council's government affairs office in Washington, D.C., is accepting applications for the summer 2015 public policy internship. The deadline to submit an application is Feb. 9, 2015.

NCBA Executive Director of Legislative Affairs Kristina Butts said this is a great opportunity for students with an interest in the beef industry and public policy.

"The internship gives college students the opportunity to work alongside staff on a range of issues that impact U.S. cattlemen and women," Butts said. "The internship is designed to work closely with the lobbying team on Capitol Hill; to assist with NCBA and PLC's regulatory efforts; and to work closely with the communications team."

The full-time internship will begin May 18, 2015, and end Aug. 21, 2015. To apply, interested college juniors, seniors or graduate students should submit the application, college transcripts, two letters of recommendation and a résumé to internships@beef.org. More information about the NCBA public policy internship is available on <http://BeefUSA.org>. 