

April 27, 2016

Aggies rounding off another great year

Dean's Column by Ron Rosati, PhD

Semester finals bring a close to the academic year here in Curtis. Congratulations NCTA Aggies!

As our faculty record final student assessments and grades, and staff across campus prepare for departure of students, we are also planning a warm welcome for the many guests who will be joining us for graduation events on May 4 and 5.

On Wednesday, May 4, the Phi Theta Kappa academic honorary will induct new members at 3 p.m. in the Education Center. This installation event recognizes academic achievement by students. The PTK organization is a national society for students in two-year post-secondary institutions.

Also, it is tradition on Wednesday night, Graduation Eve, we gather as the Aggie family to celebrate the achievements of our students with their families and friends present. The annual awards night program begins at 7 p.m. at the Education Center.

You are invited to join this recognition night. Student recipients of special scholarships and academic honors will be featured. And, we will name the Aggie of the Year.

Parents, grandparents, spouses, siblings and many friends here in the Curtis community, as well, join us for Commencement exercises at 1:30 p.m. on May 5 at the Curtis Memorial Community Center.

Our keynote speaker will be Governor Pete Ricketts, and he will be joined by NU President Hank Bounds, NU Regent Bob Phares of North Platte, UNL Chancellor-elect Ronnie Green, Dist. 44 State Sen. Dan Hughes of Venango, and other representatives of the University of Nebraska Foundation and NU system.

This will certainly be a celebratory event as we confer about 80 associates degrees or 1-year certificates to NCTA students. Join us for the reception immediately following graduation.

We hope many of the campus alumni will be joining us at graduation, but if not then, for the annual alumni reunion and banquet on Saturday, June 11.

Dave Thorell, KRVN radio broadcaster and well-known public personality, will serve as emcee and keynote speaker. Kim Mortensen of Curtis is the UNSTA-NCTA alumni association president and invites all college and high school alumni for this enjoyable evening.

You may contact my office at (308) 367-5200 and visit with Catherine Hauptman, alumni secretary, about the schedule and registration details.

Recently, the NCTA Dean's Newsletter to alumni and friends was mailed to more than 4,200 recipients around the nation. I've enjoyed hearing back from some of you already. Please do stay in touch with the campus!

During the summer months, NCTA continues to operate since we have classes for the Veterinary Technology Division and many special programs, camps and educational clinics. Although we do not have fulltime classes for the divisions other than Vet Tech, there are some online course offerings.

Continue to watch the calendar in this weekly news column and on the web at ncta.unl.edu . I hope to see many of you at graduation on May 5, 1:30 p.m. at the Curtis Memorial Community Center.

NCTA Calendar:

April 29 – Stock Dog Fun Night, 6:30 p.m., LTC Arena
April 30 – Frontier County 4-H Horse Practice, LTC Arena
May 4 – Phi Theta Kappa installation, 2 p.m. Ed Center
May 4 - Awards Night, 7 p.m. Ed Center
May 5 – Graduation, 1:30 p.m. Community Center
May 7 – Horticulture walk on campus, pruning, 1-4 p.m.

NCTA Mission:

The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is devoted to a statewide mission of preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, veterinary technology, food and related industries. The college provides open access to innovative technical education resulting in associate degrees, certificates, diplomas and other credentials.

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The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, Curtis, attended Investiture activities in Lincoln as Dr. Hank Bounds was installed as the University of Nebraska's seventh president, April 15, 2016. (Mary Crawford/NCTA News photo)