FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CASNR Students Selected as OSU Senior of Significance

Stillwater, Okla. – The Oklahoma State University Alumni Association is proud to announce 44 recipients of the 2008-2009 Seniors of Significance award. Cassie Bacon, Jered Davidson, Nathan Fent, Austin Horn, Emily Kilian, Brianna Jett, Myriah Johnson, Aimee Lee, Tiffani Pruitt, Evan Schwenk, Savannah Smith, Cortney Timmons, Nathan Thompson and Dayla Turner from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources were honored during a public reception on Nov. 20 at the ConocoPhillips OSU Alumni Center.

The Seniors of Significance Award recognizes students who have excelled in scholarship, leadership and service to campus and community and have brought distinction to OSU. This group is approximately 1 percent of the 2008-2009 graduating class and represents the breadth of the OSU student experience.

Cassie Lynnette Bacon, an animal science livestock-merchandising and agricultural communications major from Prairie Grove, Ark., is the daughter of Dr. Craig and Debbie Bacon. During her freshman year, Bacon served as the National Polled Hereford Queen, traveling more than 20,000 miles and visiting with cattlemen across the country. During her time at OSU, she has been a member of both the meat and livestock judging teams. She has been actively involved in numerous clubs and organizations across campus and has served in leadership and officer positions. She also serves as a recruiter in the departmental and college levels.

Jered Tyler Davidson, an agricultural economics major from Ft. Cobb, Okla., is the son of Larry and Kendra Walsh and Jerry and Kelli Davidson. Davidson is member of the FarmHouse Fraternity where he recently served as President. He is the Alumni Relations Executive for Student Alumni Board and is the Coordinator of President’s Posse. He was been name a 2008 Harry S. Truman National Finalist and is a 2008 Henry Clay Scholar.

Nathan Fent, an agricultural communications major from Wyandotte, Okla., is the son of Roger and Sherri Fent. Fent is an Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Distinguished Scholar and represented OSU as a 2007 Royal 6 ambassador for the American Royal. He currently serves as an Agricultural Ambassador for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. He has served as a public relations intern for Stan Clark Companies.

Stanley Austin Horn, an agricultural economics and Spanish major from Yukon, Okla., is the son of Doctors Stan and Lisa Horn. Horn is the current president of the Agricultural
Student Association and a LouisDreyfus Commodities Trader intern. He has been involved with the Student Government Association Speakers Board and the Walk to Cure Juvenile Diabetes Event.

Brianna Jett, an agricultural economics major from Laverne, Okla., is the daughter of Alan and Alyson Jett. Jett has served as the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority President and the Blue Key Honor Society Vice President. She has been a United States Congressional Intern and participated in the Arts and Sciences Outreach, Cambridge University study abroad program.

Myriah D. Johnson, an agricultural economics major from Perry, Okla., is the daughter of Mike and Dixie Johnson. In 2008, Johnson was a member of the Homecoming Executive Team and oversaw bands, spirit rally and video production committees. She is a member of the Cowboy Marching Band and a member and past Recruitment Vice President of Alpha Delta Pi. She is publishing a research paper in the Student Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association Journal.

Emily Joyce Kilian, an agricultural communications major with a minor in agricultural economics from Medford, Okla., is the daughter of Danny and Shelly Kilian. Kilian is the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow First Vice President. She is a member of the Farm Credit Services of East Central Oklahoma Student Board of Directors and the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She also serves as a College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Agricultural Ambassador.

Aimee Nicole Lee, a food science major from Pryor, Okla., is the daughter of Raymond and Kathy Lee. Lee is involved in Campus Crusade for Christ student organization. She placed third in the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center’s Technical Writing Competition and has completed two internships. She has also participated in a study abroad experience to China and Tibet.

Tiffani Pruitt, an animal science major with a business option from Chickasha, Okla., is the daughter of Jill Otterstad and Joe Bob Pruitt. Pruitt is currently serving as the President of the Animal Science Leadership Alliance, Block and Bridle, and Oklahoma Collegiate Cattlewomen. She is a member of the Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, Iota Kappa and Golden Key Honor Societies. She has served on the President’s Leadership Council and is a member of Class Five of the Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Encounter.

Evan W. Schwenk, a biochemistry and molecular biology pre-medicine major from Stillwater, Okla., is the son of George and Pam Schwenk. Schwenk has served as a President’s Leadership Council facilitator and a 2007 Homecoming Executive. He has volunteered more than 300 hours at the Stillwater Medical Center and also volunteered for Unite for Sight in Bihar, India at rural charity eye clinics.
Savannah Smith, an environmental science major with an option in Environmental Policy from Talihina, Okla., is the daughter of Suzy and Gary Howard. Smith was named a 2008 Morris K. Udall Scholar. She is a member of the OSU Environmental Science Club and has served as the President and the Water Watch Volunteer Coordinator for the club. She is currently serving as the Tailgate Recycling and Student Government Association Sustainability Committee Chair. She is also working on an environmental soil chemistry undergraduate research project under Dr. Chad Penn.

Nathan Thompson, an agricultural economics and finance major from Davenport, Okla., is the son of Robert and Janine Thompson. Thompson is a member of the FarmHouse Fraternity and recently served as recruitment chair. He is also a member of the executive team for the Mortar Board Honor Society. He was named a top five Homecoming Royalty King Candidate and has been on the President’s Honor Roll every semester.

Cortney Timmons, a biosystems engineering major from Ada, Okla., is the daughter of Steve and Lisa Timmons. Timmons is a 2008 Harry S. Truman Scholar and 2007 Morris K. Udall Scholar. She was named the 2007 Oklahoma Recycling Hero: Collegiate Recycler of the Year for her efforts in developing the “Real Cowboys Recycle” tailgate recycling program. She has had the opportunity to study abroad in Cambridge, England, Dublin, Ireland and Japan.

Dayla Randi (Peel) Turner, an agricultural education major from Wetumka, Okla., is the daughter of Earl and Lisa Peel. Turner is a Future Agricultural Education Teacher Academy intern and an Agricultural Ambassador for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. She has served as the Collegiate FFA President and as an undergraduate representative on the Search and Screen Committee for the Agricultural Education, Communication, and Leadership Department Head.

A special thank you to the OSU Alumni Association’s Corporate Partners who so graciously provided support for this event: ConocoPhillips, Harrison Gypsum Co., the OSU Foundation and BancFirst.

The OSU Alumni Association serves as a lifelong connection between alumni and Oklahoma State University. As a member organization, the Association serves more than 200,000 alumni living worldwide, as well as OSU students, faculty, staff and friends. By supporting the extensive alumni network from OSU, the Association provides a connection back to the university through a number of outreach programs as well as a complete directory to connect alumni to each other. Get connected – Stay Connected – orangeconnection.org!

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