Nebraska LEAD Program
Leadership Education/Action Development
2017 - 2019 LEAD Fellows
Group 37

Thad Baum  
Syngenta  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Luke Beckman  
Beckman Farms/Central Valley Ag  
Elgin, Nebraska

Krisit Block  
Nebraska Grain & Feed Assoc.  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Jerry Boeck  
Boeck Seed Services, Inc.  
Exeter, Nebraska

Amber Burge  
Producer/Gothenburg State Bank  
Gothenburg, Nebraska

Miles Buskirk  
Farmer’s Cooperative Elevator Co.  
Alliance, Nebraska

Ross Daake  
Daake Farms  
Merna, Nebraska

Bree DeNaeyer  
Flying D Ranch  
Seneca, Nebraska

Clayton Govier  
Glen Govier & Sons, Inc.  
Broken Bow, Nebraska

Adam Grabenstein  
LA Farms  
Farnam, Nebraska

Megan Grimes  
Nebraska Ethanol Board  
Lincoln, Nebraska

Kyle Ann Hopkins  
North Platte NRD  
Gering, Nebraska
Nebraska LEAD Program
Leadership Education/Action Development
2017 - 2019 LEAD Fellows
Group 37, Continued

Evan Janzen
Janzen Farms
Aurora, Nebraska

Jamison Jensen
Agribusiness
Lincoln, Nebraska

Aaron Kavan
Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health/M&D Enterprises
York, Nebraska

Jason Keiser
Orthman Manufacturing/K-Farms, Inc./Flying K Simmental
Cazad, Nebraska

Cory Kudlacek
Kudlacek Farms, LLC
David City, Nebraska

Chelsea Luthy
Producer/Rancher
Cody, Nebraska

Adam Pavelka
Producer/Agri Affiliates, Inc.
Hastings, Nebraska

MerleAnn Raichart
Raichart Ranch
Benkelman, Nebraska

Ted Retzlaff
Producer/State Farm Insurance
Eagle, Nebraska

Samuel Schmidt
The Agronomic Consulting Group
West Point, Nebraska

Scott Sorensen
AgriGold Hybrids
Cairo, Nebraska

Scott Speck
CropMetrics
Gothenburg, Nebraska
2017 - 2018
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Nebraska LEAD 37: Year 1 Schedule

Seminar 1: September 2017 (Sun-Tue)**
Theme: Leadership Assessment and Potential
Location: University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Seminar 2: October 2017 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Natural Resources, Water and Energy
Location: Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture

Seminar 3: November 2017 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Leadership Through Communication
Location: University of Nebraska - Kearney

Seminar 4: January 2018 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Our Political Process
Location: Union College–Lincoln

February 2018 (Wed)
Theme: Nuclear Energy
Location: Peru State College

Date: February 2018
Theme: Various Topics
Location: National Study Group
Kansas City, Washington D.C., Chicago

Seminar 5: March 2018 (Thu-Sat)**
Theme: Social Issues (No Alumni Dinner)
Location: Creighton University - Omaha

Seminar 6: April 2018 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Panhandle Agriculture – The Land & The People
Location: University Nebraska Research and Extension Center – Scottsbluff

Nebraska LEAD 36: Year 2 Schedule

Seminar 7: September 2017 (Sun-Tue)**
Theme: Understanding and Developing Our Leadership Skills
Location: Chadron State College

Seminar 8: November 2017 (Wed-Fri)
Theme: Agricultural Policy, Finance and Marketing
(No Alumni Dinner)
Location: University of Nebraska—Lincoln

Seminar 9: November 2017 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Global Perspectives
Location: Wayne State College

Seminar 10: December 2017 (Sun-Tue)
Theme: Comparative Cultural, Educational, Political & Religious Systems
Location: Nebraska Wesleyan University - Lincoln

January 2018
Theme: International Study/Travel
Location: China, Laos, Thailand

Seminar 11: February 2018 (Thu-Sat)
Theme: Agribusiness and Advances in Health Care
Location: University of Nebraska – Omaha, UNMC

Seminar 12: March 2018 (Thu-Fri)**
Theme: Looking Ahead – Final Seminar (No Alumni Dinner)
Location: University of Nebraska—Lincoln

March 9, 2018
Annual Recognition Banquet
UNL East Campus Union

**seminar with spouses

Leadership Education/Action Development

The LEAD Program

Up to thirty individuals are selected annually to participate in the Nebraska Leadership Education/Action Development (LEAD) Program. During the two year program, LEAD Participants attend 12 three-day seminars and two study/travel seminars, one national and the other international. Content of the seminars are essential to leadership and focus on economics, government, human relations, communications, international trade, sociology, education, the arts and social-cultural understanding.

During the first year, participants study local, state and national issues. The second year curriculum emphasizes continued leadership, skill development and international study.

The LEAD Participants

All participants are Nebraska residents involved in production agriculture, agribusiness or a closely related occupation. Preference of LEAD Participants is given to individuals between the ages of 25 and 55 who possess proven leadership potential, capability and a commitment to Nebraska.

The LEAD Organization

The Nebraska LEAD Program is under the direction of the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council and is supported by individuals, businesses and industries, as well as public and private institutions of higher education and research.

The LEAD Purpose

The dynamic industry of agriculture plays a profound and over-riding role in every phase of Nebraska life. The LEAD Program recognizes that the development of human resources for agriculture and Nebraska should not be left to chance. The LEAD Program strives to address the needs of community members involved in the business of agriculture by presenting opportunities to broaden one’s knowledge and strengthen leadership and decision-making abilities.