Sydney is a senior at Eastern Kentucky University studying Agriculture Business with a specialty in Animal Science. She will graduate in May 2017. After graduation she will be moving to Guymon, Oklahoma to work as a full-time HR manager trainee with Seaboard Foods.

While attending Eastern Kentucky University she has become a member of DTA as well as her chapter president and national president. Additionally, she made the Dean's list in the fall of 2016, was an intern with the North American International Livestock Exposition, represented her agriculture department as an ag ambassador/recruiter and was the social / communications chair for Lambda Sigma – Sophomore Honor Society 2015-2016. In her spare time (if she has any) is spent catching up on sleep, working at Olive Garden, spending time with her cat, or detailing / maintenance on cars and trucks. When asked why agriculture is important to her, she had this to say: Agriculture is important to me because we may be seen as the low man on the totem pole, but we have the biggest impact on the world. I believe in education through advocacy and without it, no one would understand our importance. Working in agriculture has taught me some of the best life lessons; work hard, stay focused, and take care of your belongings.

**Words to Live By:** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

– Jeremiah29:11
OFFICER SPOTLIGHT
Stacy Pachta, Midwestern Vice President

Stacy is a senior at Fort Hays State University in Kansas studying animal science. She will graduate in May of 2017. Her plans after graduation are to become an ag loan officer. While attending Fort Hays, she has been an active member of DTA and national Midwestern vice president. On campus she is also an active member of Sigma Alpha, an agriculture sorority, and block and bridge. She spends her spare time working full time as a barista and planning her wedding (June 3rd). Agriculture is important to her because “I want everyone to understand where their food comes from and be confident it is safe for them and their families to eat.”

Brackston McKnight, Southern Vice President

Brackston is a senior at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, studying Agribusiness with minors in Plant and Soil Science and Mass Communications. While attending Sam Houston State, he has become DTA chapter treasurer and National Midwestern VP. He is also an active member of the horticulture club, Agribusiness club, Sam Houston State Honors College, agriculture communicators of tomorrow, and terry scholars. After graduation he plans to enter the nursery/greenhouse industry. Agriculture is important to him because “I like the connection to the land you get when you’re working outside and the peace that comes along with it.”