

AICF DOUGLAS MCRORIE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2014 RECIPIENTS

One PhD level and two Masters level students in agricultural business, economics, finance and trade programs were the 2014 recipients of the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation (AICF) Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship.

This scholarship, which is made available through the support of the RBC Foundation, was established by the AICF in 1990 to honour past-president and agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. Mr. McRorie served as Vice President of Agriculture for the Royal Bank of Canada and was a respected agricultural leader in Canada.

Congratulations to the 2014 award recipients.

ALBERT BOAITEY



Albert Boaitey received the \$5,000 PhD scholarship. He is a student at the University of Alberta where he is pursuing his PhD in agricultural economics with research on assessing the economic value of the use of genomic technologies to improve the feed efficiency of Canada's beef cattle sector. Outcomes of this study may not only influence measures aimed at improving Canada's competitive position but also provide insights into the impacts of these technology applications in primary agricultural production. Mr. Boaitey received his MSc in Agricultural Economics from the University of Saskatchewan.

Within the agricultural/natural resource sector, Mr. Boaitey is a volunteer for Ducks Unlimited and Oxfam's GROW campaign through which he supports advocacy for sustainable and equitable global food production systems. Additionally, he serves on the student executive committee of the international Friendship Group working with international students at the University of Alberta and is a volunteer with the International Red Cross RespectED program. As a member of a team of Canadian researchers on a Food and Agricultural Organization book project analyzing aspects of the critical institutional and marketing considerations for western Canada's biofuel economy, he has helped bring a Canadian perspective to bear on international agricultural policy. Through his future work, Mr. Boaitey hopes to influence public policy with particular emphasis on sustainability of the farm enterprise and to contribute to the education of Canada's next generation of agribusiness/economics leaders.

HAWLEY CAMPBELL



Hawley Campbell received a Masters scholarship of \$3,000. She is an MSc student in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Alberta. For her thesis research, Ms. Campbell plans to evaluate the economic impacts of Canadian biofuel policies. The results of her thesis work will contribute to the existing literature on the economy-wide impacts of biofuel policies with analysis and discussion of economic impacts of biofuel policies specific to Canada's agricultural sector.

During summer employments with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development (AARD), Ms. Campbell learned more about agricultural systems, public policy, and the interaction between environmental conservation and economically efficient agri-food

production. While working with AARD, Ms. Campbell volunteered as a committee member for the START (Striving Toward a Rewarding Tomorrow) program, which is designed to offer Government of Alberta summer students a variety of seminars, workshops and career training. At the end of the summer, she led the program evaluation aimed to improve the START program for future students and ensure events are specialized for those interested in an agriculture-focused career.

Following the completion of her MSc degree, Ms. Campbell intends to continue her academic studies at the PhD level towards a career in agricultural policy that encompasses resource conservation and management.

SEBASTIAN DALY KINDSVATER



Sebastian Daly Kindsvater received a Masters scholarship of \$3,000. He is enrolled in the thesis based MSc program in the department of Food, Agriculture and Resource Economics at the University of Guelph. His thesis research is focused in the area of food security, specifically in assessing the economic impact of an international bean improvement program: has the adoption of new bean varieties translated into economic benefits (yields and net income) for poor farmers? In 2013, Mr. Daly Kindsvater traveled to Honduras to collect primary data in order to conduct this analysis. He has used advanced econometric methods (propensity score matching: PSM) to determine if there exists a causal relationship between the adoption of new varieties and economic outcomes. He anticipates that the results of his research will enable policy makers to make better resource allocation decisions when funding specific types of development projects.

Mr. Daly Kindsvater worked for two years as a volunteer with a micro-finance organization for entrepreneurial rural women in Costa Rica. Through the (then) Canadian International Development Agency internship program he volunteered with Crossroads International in Bolivia as a Financial Risk Advisor with a rural finance organization whose clients were mainly quinoa and coffee producers. Mr. Daly Kindsvater has also volunteered as a mentor to recent refugees with the Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture.

Through employment with an international agency, Mr. Daly Kindsvater plans to advance his research interests before pursuing further academic studies.