

# NEBRASKA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NPPA Announces Participants in the 2016 Pork Leadership Program**

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association is proud to welcome participants in the 2016 Pork Leadership Program. Participants in the 2016 Pork Leadership Program are:

Amy Schmidt of Lincoln is employed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as an assistant professor and livestock bioenvironmental engineer.

Austin Zimmerman of Lincoln is employed by Automated Production as a new product design engineer.

Chris Ford of Neligh is employed by Farm Credit Services of America as a lead large producer credit analyst.

Gary Jarzynka of Lincoln is employed by Smithfield as a cut floor supervisor.

JD Gustafson of Omaha is an account executive for Holmes, Murphy and Associates, an employee owned, independent insurance broker.

Leslie McCuiston of Columbus is employed by The Maschhoffs as a senior production manager for breed-to-wean in Nebraska.

The 2016 Pork Leadership Program is comprised of six talented professionals. Each participant shares unique experiences that shape their perspective based on their particular career path as well as their personal involvements and interests.

Participants in the Pork Leadership Program will participate in six meetings and activities over the course of a year, where they will learn about various aspects of the pork and agriculture industries.

Participants in the Pork Leadership Program will learn more about:

- Current and diverse pork production methods
- Current research efforts to improve pork production as it relates to overall pig health and well-being
- Current domestic issues and their impacts on the pork industry as it relates to economics and trade
- Current policy and regulations being developed on the local, state, and national levels

Participants in the Pork Leadership Program will:

- Interact with the general public and elected leaders and will serve as positive advocates for the pork industry
- Define their personal leadership style and know how to work with different leadership styles in a group
- Develop a working knowledge of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association and other key organizations that agriculture groups can work with to broaden perspectives and build coalitions

The Pork Leadership Program was created to build awareness, interest and involvement in the pork industry. Members will further develop their skills as leaders and will naturally emerge as the next wave of active and engaged members of committees and board members at the local, state and national levels.

*The Nebraska Pork Producers Association is a grassroots, incorporated, non profit organization established in 1961. NPPA was developed to promote the pork industry through the enhancement of consumer demand, producer education and research. For more information, visit NPPA's website at [www.NEpork.org](http://www.NEpork.org).*