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Research Scholar: Searching the Past to Inform the Future

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I hope to marry my scientific background in food science to the legislative implementation of public policy.

By Mary Lou Peter

Searching the past to inform the future

Just call Sarah Jones a super sleuth. The senior in food science and industry is spending part of her last year at Kansas State University digging into just how long people have been concerned about the connection between human and animal health. At least 150 years, it turns out.

Jones’ instructors have taken her from her hometown of Riverina in southern Kansas to Washington, D.C., in spring 2016 where she met with officials from the Food and Drug Administration, the Congressional Research Service and others, to Bethesda, Maryland and the National Library of Medicine amid this summer. While in Bethesda, she delved into hundreds of historical documents and photos, including a review of the One Health approach, sparked by diseases at Billings’ One Health approach, led him to create a floating wetland to measure water quality in Wuhan, China.

What do you know?

Artist Carlos Castellanos explores how different disciplines create knowledge

By Sarah Caldwell Hancock

Laypersons, artists and scientists see the world and its problems differently. Interest in their diverse ways of knowing and in bridging where they can create new knowledge has led Carlos Castellanos, assistant professor of art at Kansas State University, to take some unusual projects.

Castellanos has built a mobile bioregion lab, for example, and explored how art, medicine and public health can help treat chronic pain.

“Pollution, issues relating to environmental health and pollution doesn’t respect international borders, and Castellanos said.

The project’s success helped Castellanos envision more unusual projects.

Castellanos has engaged in topics of local interest, such as prairie ecology, by starting a chapter of Leonardo Art Science, or LASER, at the K-State LASER gatherings bring artists and scientists together for informal presentations and audience conversations, and the K-State chapter is the first in the Midwest. Castellanos hopes to use the group as a springboard to host more events such as art festivals and symposia.

Castellanos came to K-State in fall 2014. He received a 2010-11 Faculty Fellowship Award to conduct an art-science collaborative research initiative exploring human-animal interaction, communication and collaboration as well as the use of laypersons interpretations as a form of knowledge contribution within a scientific research context. The fellowship will yield an installation created with his collaborator at West Virginia University.

For exam-