CHS, Inc. is the largest cooperative in North America, and while it is a Fortune 100 company with over 10,000 employees, and 600,000 farmer and rancher members, it creates a community and a support system for even the smallest agriculturalists in the most rural locations, while providing and producing everything that they could need to be successful. I was blessed to spend a life-changing summer in Washington, D.C. working for CHS's Government Affairs team, which advocates and lobbies for policies that affect every part of agriculture, on both the consumer and producer side.

When I began my internship in May, I knew that I had a passion for agriculture policy, but I did not yet know the extent of it. I very quickly fell in love with the interconnectedness of the D.C. agriculture world, the passion and drive of the people surrounding me, the livelihood of the city, and the power and impact of the actions in D.C. that affect the rest of the world.

Every day in D.C. presented a new and exciting task for me. Some things included attending congressional hearings or agency panels and comprising memos to distribute to various teams at CHS, researching new ag programs that would affect CHS, meeting with staff in congressional offices, working with the Director of the Government Affairs team on the team's materiality assessment, assisting the rest of the Government Affairs team with projects, sitting in on calls with Egypt and other countries regarding international trade issues, or just interacting and networking with people across the industry.

My supervisors were incredibly catering to showing me and teaching me as much as possible, and they connected me with very important individuals from lobbying groups and trade associations whom I was able to get one-on-one lunches with. They took me to many fundraisers and events with Senators and House members, such as an event for Governor Burgum of North Dakota (Presidential candidate). I was even able to go to The White House for the Arrival Ceremony of India's Prime Minister. My favorite week was CHS's CEO and Board of Director's D.C. Fly-In. I assisted with many logistics of this week, such as arranging transportation, editing documents, and taking the Board members to their meetings on Capitol Hill. This week was very impactful for me because the Board members are all farmers and I got to see the magnitude of how the actions in D.C. help them out in their small towns across the country. I sat in on some very interesting meetings with the Brazilian Embassy Ambassador, The Environmental Protection Agency, and more. I

also spent a lot of time interacting one-on-one with CHS's President and CEO. (I was so shocked and impressed that the CEO of a Fortune 100 company wanted to spend so much time talking with me, a 20-year-old intern.)

I also involved myself heavily with the D.C. Ag Intern Network and D.C. Women in Ag, where I made some great friends and learned about other trade associations, companies, and lobbying groups. I met students from across the country and the world, and I will be able to keep those connections as I finish my time at WT and move to the professional world. I fully immersed myself in D.C. culture and spent all of my free time exploring the city and the areas around it. I even spent some time volunteering at a soup kitchen (DC Central Kitchen).

Beyond having the best summer of my life, I made invaluable connections and built up such an impressive network. Before the internship ended, I was already looking for ways to stay connected to that world. My supervisors extended an offer for me to come back and work for them again next summer, or intern at CHS headquarters in Minnesota. They also ensured that, if I wanted, they would help me to secure a position with the Senate Agriculture Committee next summer or the following summer. This potential is very exciting to me, and I am hoping to return to D.C. to work for the Committee after I graduate and before I go to law school. In addition, my supervisors encouraged me to get as much congressional experience as I could, so I am currently spending this fall semester interning with Representative Ronny Jackson's district office in Amarillo. Through connections that I made this summer, I also learned about a remote spring policy internship with Animal Agriculture Alliance that I am very excited and optimistic about.

This internship was so beneficial in so many ways, and as I continue dedicating time to my academics, my on-campus job, and my extracurriculars, I will utilize the skills that I gained this summer every single day. Prior to the internship, I was certain that I wanted to go to law school to practice law involving agricultural issues, however after this summer, I am heavily considering pursuing the policy aspect rather than legal (or potentially marrying legal with policy.) After this summer of experiences and mentorship, I am more confident than ever in who I am as a person in both my professional and personal life, and I know that no matter where I end up, I will always be striving to be a voice for the agriculture industry.

Kylee Henneberry

Kyla Huly

Internship of the Year Committee,

I am absolutely delighted to explain to you all my support for Kylee Henneberry as a nominee for the WTAMU Intern of the Year award. As both an instructor and an advisor to Kylee for the past year and a half, I have had the privilege of witnessing her exceptional qualities in academic performance, initiative, creativity, leadership, character, and community involvement.

Kylee, an Agribusiness student with a pre-law minor, is an excellent example of academic excellence and unwavering dedication to her goals. Her strong GPA reflects her commitment to her studies, and it is clear that she possesses the qualities of a driven and focused individual. Her ability to balance a job with active participation in numerous clubs and organizations, all while maintaining a strong academic record, speaks volumes about her exceptional time management skills and dedication to her pursuits. Within the department of Agriculture at WTAMU, Kylee has been recognized and awarded numerous scholarships, a testament to the level of student she is. Her proactive approach to securing scholarships and internships exemplifies her resourcefulness and her commitment to achieving academic success.

I would not be doing Kylee justice in writing this letter if I did not speak of her role as a founding member of the newly formed Ag Pre-Law club. This club not only provides students with invaluable support in pursuing admission to law schools but also offers networking opportunities that are instrumental in shaping their future careers. Kylee's initiative in establishing this club is indicative of her commitment to fostering a supportive and enriching environment for her peers. Kylee saw a need for students such as herself, gathered other like-minded students, and has successfully co-founded this new club that will undoubtedly help many other students pursuing goals similar to Kylee.

Beyond her academic and leadership accomplishments, Kylee's character is one of her most endearing qualities. She is known for her kindness and thoughtfulness to others, traits that make her not only an exceptional student but also a wonderful member of the community. Kylee volunteers her time at

Representative Ronny Jackson's office and participates in other community service efforts as well. Her commitment to giving back and making a positive impact on her community is a trait not always seen in students. Kylee's aspirations to attend law school, travel, experience the world, and eventually give back to her agricultural community exemplify her forward-thinking mindset and her commitment to personal and professional growth. Her enthusiasm for pursuing education head-on and her determination to make a difference in the world are qualities that make her a truly exceptional candidate for the Intern of the Year award.

Kylee Henneberry is a remarkable student and individual who embodies the qualities of dedication, leadership, and a strong sense of community. Her outstanding academic achievements, innovative leadership, and commitment to making a positive impact on her community are not seen as often in students as one would hope. I strongly and wholeheartedly support Kylee's nomination for the WTAMU Intern of the Year award, as she is undeniably deserving of this prestigious recognition.

Chelsea Arnold

Assistant Professor of Agricultural Business and Economics

West Texas A&M University

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Will Stafford, I am the Director of Federal Government Affairs for CHS inc., the nation's largest farmer-owned cooperative. CHS is a leading grain, agronomy, and energy company that does business around the world on behalf of 600,000 farmer and rancher owners. I also had the pleasure of being able to say I was supervisor to Kylee Henneberry during her internship with us in Washington, DC this past summer. This was our first summer having an intern in our Government Affairs office, and to put it simply, we could not have asked for a better person to join our team than Kylee.

Kylee showed maturity and ambition well beyond what we expected from someone her age and was truly more than just an intern to us - she was an integral part of our team and what we were able to accomplish while we she was with us.

It was quickly apparent upon her hiring that we could give Kylee challenging tasks and trust on her to deliver results. This included attending Congressional hearings in the US Senate and House of Representatives on topics such as sustainability and international trade, which she would then condense into a memo that we were high enough in content and quality that we felt comfortable sharing them with high level executives. I recall one memo where she identified which Senators, from their statements during a hearing, that we should consider meeting with and educating on topics such as precision agriculture.

In addition to her high-quality deliverables, Kylee showed remarkable maturity with how she carried herself daily. When we were originally interviewing for the role, we told perspective candidates that A) this was a new internship program, so it may not be as well structured as other opportunities and B) due to the nature of our jobs, schedules are not set in stone, and she may be alone in the office or working from home on somedays. While Kylee handled any task given to her with incredible ambition, it was how she managed her own time that stood out to us. She would seek out opportunities in Washington, DC, whether this was lunches with other DC interns, speeches offsite, or networking events, where she represented the company. She even found time to volunteer on behalf of our company, by herself, in a local food kitchen.

By late June, we trusted Kylee so much that we gave her a central role in managing a trip to DC by our CEO and Board of Directors (we call these 'Fly-ins"). In this role, Kylee not only maintained schedules and logistics for the highest-ranking executives in the company, she also helped write the pre-read prep materials which included talking points that our CEO used in meetings with members of Congress and the Brazilian Ambassador. I have to assume that not many interns get the chance to work so closely with (and get personally recognized by) Fortune 100 CEOS.

At the end of her summer, with the type of grace we had come to expect, Kylee gave us valuable advice for how we could improve our internship program for future candidates (although they will have a tough bar to clear.)

I will close by saying that being able to mentor Kylee, and watch her grow professionally, was personally quite fulfilling for me. While our whole team was sad to say goodbye to her in August, we know she has a very bright future ahead of her and she has many people at CHS ready to assist her in achieving that.

If you have any questions or would like to speak more about Kylee and her time at CHS Inc., please feel free to call me at 202-834-4623, or email me at <a href="https://www.wilee.com">William.stafford@chsinc.com</a>.

Sincerely,

Will Stafford

Director of Federal Government Affairs, CHS Inc.