

Ag Department

At Your Service



Lori Dudley and Elizabeth Bertrand discussing upcoming CASNR events.

The Dr. Bill Bennett Student Success Center oversees the Government Internship Program, Ambassadors for Agriculture and AgFest. Students looking for more opportunities in their college career might want to check this place out.

“Many students do not know about us or where we are located,” said Rachel Bobbitt, Coordinator of Student Programs for CASNR at Texas Tech. “We send an enews letter out every month and have an open-door policy. This is how students can learn more about what we have to offer.”

The Student Success Center helps students through the three main phases of their college careers - recruitment, retention, and career placement.

“Once a student has been admitted, we try to help them find a club or organization that suits them,” said Bobbitt. “Many students’ first clubs will be one related to their major where they will meet people with common interests. As they progress with their college career, some will join other CASNR related clubs such as Ag Council and Block and Bridle, which have members with many different majors.”

The Student Success Center also has students that work for them. They have a flexible schedule since it is an on-campus job.

“Working with the Student Success Center has opened my eyes to other career opportunities,” said Elizabeth Bertrand, a student assistant. “I get to go on recruiting trips, which I think helps with recruiting prospective students so that I can give them a student’s perspective. I also get to see a lot of the faculty members around the office, and it’s kind of nice to talk with some of them on casual basis.”

Bertrand is also involved with clubs through CASNR.

“Ambassadors for Agriculture was the first club that I joined, which I am now the president,” said Bertrand. “I am also in Agri-Techsans. These clubs have opened many doors for me.”

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The scholarships that CASNR has to offer have helped many students save money to pursue their college career.

“I have three scholarships through CASNR at Texas Tech, including two from Ag Comm,” said Whitney Mathews, a senior in agricultural communications.

“I haven’t had to pay a dime for my college, and that has made things so much easier for me.”

The Government Internship Program has had over 65 students serve as interns in the congressional and legislative offices in Washington and Austin since its establishment in 1998, according to the Texas Tech CASNR website.

Suzanne Watson, a senior in agricultural communications, is one student who served as an intern in Washington D.C.

“I heard about it through the services center,” said Watson. “I had thought about it, but never thought it was something I would be able to do. It was the best experience of my life and was amazing working and living and working on Capitol Hill. It was completely out of my comfort zone, but it was worth it.”

The Student Success Center also oversees the AgPals program, which pairs an upper-class student with an incoming freshman, to help show them the ropes of the college and Texas Tech.

“We can do more to help students besides just getting them involved with clubs and organizations,” said Bobbitt. “We want students to be successful throughout their college lives, and when they graduate.”

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