

Illinois FFA Center Team



Mindy Bunselmeyer

Mindy Bunselmeyer has been at the Illinois FFA Center since March of 2013 and serving as Executive Director since the summer of 2015. Prior to her position with the Illinois FFA Center, she was the District 4 Program Advisor for Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education for 10 years. Prior to that experience, Mindy taught agriculture at Monticello High School for 8 years. She attended the University of Illinois, where she completed her Bachelors and Masters in Agricultural Education. She and her husband, Mark and their son Gehrig and daughter Emery, live on a farm near Decatur, Illinois, where they raise corn, soybeans and horseradish.



Jannette Allotey

Jannette joined the FFA Center in February as the bookkeeper. She grew up on her family farm just southwest of Springfield, IL in Waverly, IL. She currently resides in Springfield, IL with her husband, Josh and their two daughters Jorja and Layla. She graduated from Greenville College in 2006 with a Bachelor's of Science in Organizational Leadership and has worked most of her career in the banking industry.



Katie Burns

Katie Burns is serving as the Communications Specialist for the Illinois FFA Center. As Communications Specialist, Katie's major responsibilities will include overseeing all media, marketing, and branding of Illinois FFA Center organizations along with stewardship of Foundation donors and logistics of the local collection drive. In May of 2017, she graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign with a Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Leadership Education and a minor in Animal Science. Katie is originally from Coulterville, IL and grew up on her family's grain and registered Polled Hereford farm. She was very active in FFA as she was a section officer and received her American FFA Degree. After high school, she attended Lake Land College where she was on the livestock judging team. She followed her passion for livestock judging to the University of Illinois and had a very successful senior college judging career. Katie is still involved with her family's farm and enjoys traveling the country exhibiting Hereford cattle.

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Patti Davis

Patti Davis is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Special Events Specialist. Patti graduated from Mt. Pulaski High School and received her Associate's Degree from Lincoln College in 1988. Patti has two children, Maddy & Joe. Maddy is playing Division I college volleyball for Louisiana Tech, and Joe plays club baseball and does very well in school. Patti first started part-time at the FFA Center helping with convention & leadership camp, and then was hired full-time in August 2010 to work with the Alumni and FCAE District III Program Advisor. Patti handles Alumni membership including starting and reactivating Alumni chapters. Patti has many duties for FCAE, including inputting class rosters and updating school information in the fall. As Special Events Specialist, Patti will be working with host sites for events, contests, conferences and conventions. She coordinates registrations for every event hosted by the Illinois FFA Center.



John Edgar

John Edgar and his wife, Kiersten, live in Athens, IL. Both grew up on small family farms, and Kiersten is now the agriculture teacher and FFA Advisor at Athens High School. The two met while serving as FFA state officers. Their son, John Luke, was born during FFA week in the spring of 2018.

John graduated from Southern Illinois University (SIU) with a degree in Agribusiness Economics in 2014 and is also working to complete his graduate degree in Agricultural Education. Before being hired at the FFA Center as Assistant Director in 2015, John worked as FFA Advisor at SIU coordinating regional contests and conferences along with teaching the Introduction to Agricultural Education course. His major roles at the FFA Center include financial and technology oversight, coordinating state contests, working with high school and post-secondary agriculture teachers, event and conference planning/management, assisting with FFA and major state officer activities, and "all other duties as assigned".



Lori Nelson

Lori Nelson is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Competitive Events Specialist. Lori will continue working with Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers and Illinois Association of Community College Agriculture Instructors membership. She will also be coordinating Career Development Events rules, awards and recognition, as well as State FFA Degree, American FFA Degrees, Scholarships and National Chapter Awards. Lori Nelson began working at the Illinois FFA Center in the fall of 2001. Lori and husband, Richard, farmed and raised Standardbred race horses in west central Illinois, and later the Springfield area, until Richard's retirement in 2014. They have a son, Zach, who works in the plumbing field.



Tammy Yard

Tammy Yard is serving as the Illinois FFA Center Leadership Specialist. She began working for the Illinois FFA Center in April, 2007. At that time, she was the administrative assistant for the Illinois FFA Alumni and FCAE, District III. In August, 2010, she transitioned into working with the Foundation and FFA. Her major responsibilities will continue to include FFA membership, FFA state convention preparation, FFA officer management, FFA Camp and other duties as assigned. Tammy is a graduate of Mt. Pulaski High School and Lincoln Land Community College. She and her husband Troy both grew up in agriculture families. Troy is an accounts manager for Gro Alliance Seed Company. They are the parents of Miranda and Jake.