Moving the Mission

June is an exciting time in Kansas. It normally means hot, sunny weather and the start of wheat harvest throughout the state. It is an important time of year for the entire grain industry as farmers, custom cutters and grain elevators experience two to three weeks of intense activity to complete the majority of the harvest within that period. It’s common to see long lines of trucks waiting to unload at local elevators, and combines running late into the evening. This year’s harvest was good overall, with many areas of the state reporting high yields, sometimes in excess of 100 bushels per acre.

June at the IGP Institute was also a busy time, as we hosted several trade teams, and held the Buhler-KSU Executive Milling course, a food safety modernization act training with more than 60 participants and the Flour Milling Course for U.S. Wheat Associates Nigerian/South African Milling two-week training.

The U.S. Wheat course has become an annual event as the participants take advantage of the local wheat harvest by traveling throughout central Kansas on a field trip to visit and tour a flour mill in Newton, a large grain elevator in Salina, and a wheat field being harvested.

This year we were hosted by Joe Kejr at one of his fields near Salina. The course participants were able to ask questions and receive answers from Joe and his family. The highlight of the yearly visit is a chance for our guests to ride along in a combine during harvest. We appreciate Joe and all of our local producers who help us share first-hand knowledge of agricultural practices in Kansas.

The IGP Institute faculty and instructors also traveled to multiple locations in the U.S., Africa, and Mexico where they shared their expertise and knowledge to help promote U.S. and Kansas grain exports across the globe.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter for additional details about our activities this month.

Pat Hackenberg
Educational Media Coordinator

In the Spotlight

- Mill Manager, Pioneer Foods
- Resident of Bethlehem, South Africa
- Participant in the Flour Milling Course for U.S. Wheat Associates Nigerian/South African Millers
  “What IGP does for the industry is a great way to improve on the process, business, each country and the world.”

Where in the World
A monthly look at where we’ve been as we make our way around the globe promoting U.S. commodities and IGP Institute training opportunities.

- Gave a presentation on World Wheat Supply and Demand to Kansas Wheat team from Nigeria.
- Hosted a training class from Lansing Grain in Kansas City, Kansas.
- Traveled to Burkina Faso and Ethiopia to work on the Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab.
- Traveled to Mexico City, Mexico and Guadalajara, Mexico with U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) for technical visits.
- Participated as a speaker at Mexican Association of Feed Producers (AMEPA) annual pet food forum called: “Foro de Mascotas” in Guadalajara, Mexico.
- Presented at the National Association of Feed Mill’s (ANFACA) and AMEPA’s annual joint Feed Technology Meeting in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Trainings and Activities
Courses and activities held in June.
- Led Buhler-KSU Executive Milling Course.
- Offered National Grain and Feed Association-KSU Food Safety Modernization Act Feed Industry Training.
- Hosted Jeff Coey, U.S. Wheat Associates from the Hong Kong office.
- Met with African Trade Team.
- Held Midwestern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (MASDA) Team.

Rave Reviews
“I enjoyed interacting with different people during the course. It has been a great experience to talk to other people about their experience including hearing the challenges they have and solutions they’ve come up with,” Gifford says. “I’ve had a great experience and I am looking forward to attending another course.”

– Kyle Gifford, Finance Professional, Birkett Mills, Pen Yann, New York
Buhler-KSU Executive Milling participant

“It was a week with a lot of information and a lot of input that I will take away with me. I now have a better understanding of wheat milling.”

– Malick Diedhiou, Grains Trader, Louis Dreyfus Company
Buhler-KSU Executive Milling participant

“We’ve learned a lot and gone into a lot of detail and that will benefit us. There is a lot we can take away from that we plan on implementing.”

– Zane Opperman, Mill Manager, Bethlehem, South Africa
Flour Milling Course for U.S. Wheat Associates Nigerian/South African Millers