

Senior Spotlight 2021-22



GRANT SANCHEZ

Endless opportunities amount to a world of memories and achievements for this Boilermaker

Hometown: Quincy, MI.

Major & Concentration: Agricultural Sales and Marketing

Minors or Certificates: Global Food and Agricultural Systems

Why did you come to Purdue: I had originally come to Purdue to major in Agronomy, as they were the only university in Indiana to offer that area of study. However, I grew up coming to Purdue for many FFA events and knew that the College of Agriculture and the University was where I wanted to call my future home.

Favorite Purdue tradition: Fountain Runs!

Top three influences at Purdue(people, ideas, experiences):

1. Studying abroad in Jamaica and Slovakia
2. Involvement in student organizations
3. The hundreds of people I have met across the world with Purdue!

Top five memories of your time at Purdue:

1. Hiking up waterfalls in Jamaica
2. Teaching a class of 5th graders in Slovakia
3. Every day during Covid lockdown, my roommate and I would try to cook something new or do something we've not done before
4. Tailgating before football games with friends
5. The many new states and countries seen when we were allowed to travel

Places you have been as a Purdue student:

- Study Abroad - Jamaica and Slovakia
- Internships - Indiana State Department of Agriculture (Indianapolis, IN), Indiana Farm Bureau (Indianapolis, IN), & Farm Credit Mid-America (Lexington, KY)
- Student Orgs - AFA (Chicago, IL, Orlando, FL), World Food Prize (Des Moines, IA) National Association of Agriculture Educators (Lansing, MI)

Favorite club/organization: Ag Council

Favorite Student-led event/initiative: Moonlight Pancake Breakfast

Favorite Purdue event: Purdue Football at Ross-Ade

Favorite Social Activity: Ag Council's Ice Cream Social in the fall!

Favorite place to study: Ag Administration Building

Favorite spot on campus: Either Loeb Fountain or the horticulture greenhouses

Favorite thing about CoA: If you don't know somebody within the CoA, chances are that one of your friends will. Everybody within the College is connected in some way, shape, or form!

Favorite thing about your major: Honestly, the advising team and professors are some of the most supportive people you will ever have. Throughout my career at Purdue, I actually switched my major twice, from Agronomy to Agriculture Education, and then Ag Ed to my current plan. Shoutout to Andy for helping me get my life in order!

Favorite class: AGEC 331 – Principles of Selling in Agricultural Business

Favorite professor: Dr. Downey

Coolest project: Capstones will be a huge part of senior year, but so far, I would say developing a marketing strategy for a local Indiana business through AGEC 327.



Three biggest accomplishments:

1. Serving as a National Teach Ag Ambassador
2. Serving as Secretary for Ag Council
3. Being selected as an Ag Econ Envoy

Things on your resume not listed above:

- I worked for The Office of Multicultural Programs within the CoA
- I'm currently a bartender at The Tap
- Served as a College of Agriculture Senator
- Served on a panel with Japan's Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Minister Hayashi

Where do you want to end up: Eventually I want to end up out of state with a company that will expand my depths beyond Indiana agriculture. Becoming involved in the Indiana agriculture industry has exponentially grown me personally and professionally, so I want to broaden my horizons and see what agriculture has to offer nationwide.

Advice for underclassman: Make the most out of every opportunity you get! You'll definitely come across times of demotivation and feeling like you're just going through the motions, but take every opportunity you have that comes your way to travel, become involved, and develop yourself professionally. At the end of your Purdue career, you'll look back and regret none of those things you did.

Biggest takeaway from Purdue: You set the tone for how your college career will go! Covid-19 was a huge wrench in everyone's plans, but you have the power to either let that get you down or learn the deeper meaning and outcomes and make it a positive turn in your life. While it sucks that we all lost a year to study abroad, join organizations, and make friends through classes, I plan to come into my senior year with a positive outlook and make the most of the opportunities that come my way.

