2015 Ag Entrepreneurship Event

November 18, 2015 * 6-7:30 pm * Dean's Auditorium, Pfendler Hall Opening Reception * 5:30-6:00 pm * Leopold's Landing

Learn to be successful from real-life entrepreneurs.

Join us for the 4th Annual College of Agriculture's Johann R. Garwood Entrepreneurship Event! Speakers representing four disciplines in the College of Agriculture will be sharing their real-world expertise during this evening session. Individual presentations will be followed by a Question and Answer session that is moderated by Dean Jay Akridge.



Denny Bell manages TerreMax Farms after recently selling Soil-Max and Gradient to Ag Leader making installing tile easier for farmers. He also started a software company, Agri-Logic Solution, in 1988 that led to yield monitors. Denny graduated from Purdue with a degree in business and farm management in 1979 and is a guest of Agricultural Economics.



Ryan Howard is the president and co-founder of Chicago Vegan Foods, an award-winning natural foods manufacturer. After graduating from Purdue's ABE program in food process engineering in 2000, Ryan worked as a project engineer for General Mills before founding his own company. Ryan has been recognized for his innovation, manufacturing efforts and natural products.



Chris Johnson is owner of People's Brewing Company and a guest of the Dean's Office. After attending Purdue to study computer graphics, he discovered homebrewing that lead to working at Lafayette Brewing Company as Head Brewer before starting his own business with his wife and brother-in-law in 2009. The brewery currently produces around 3000 barrels of beer per year.



Roy Riggs, Retired Executive for Elanco, received his bachelor's degree in animal science in 1979 and completed the Harvard agribusiness seminar in 2001. He served as director for the U.S. Cattle Business Unit of Elanco Animal Health and liaison for National FFA and as a judge at national contests. He was named as a Distinguished Alum for both the Department of Animal Sciences and the College of Agriculture.