

I D A H O

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Casey Zufelt

Hi! My name is Casey Zufelt, and Kuna, ID is the place that I call home. There were many opportunities that came my way because of my involvement in the Kuna FFA Chapter, including chapter, district, and state officer positions and participation in numerous Career Development Events (parliamentary procedure, soil and land evaluation, and farm business management being the highlights). The chance to be in charge of major functions also came my way, such as leading our agricultural exposition, end-of-year banquet, opening social, and scholarship auction.

In my college career, I have been fortunate to hold leadership positions as a College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Ambassador and Collegiate FFA President. Amidst school classes and functions, I've held jobs as a video conference operator for the campus and trainer for the National FFA Organization. As that trainer, I've been able to travel to five different states and our nation's capital facilitating leadership practices to over 2500 students. Serving on the National FFA Officer Nominating Committee was also a highlight of my college experience. As a Nominating Committee member, I was one of nine FFA members chosen to select the 2011-2012 national officer team, and be trained to interview candidates using behavioral interviewing techniques. During my "off" time, I love to go to Moscow Mountain to hike and ponder, as well as read historical fiction novels and play piano.

Teaching is such an exciting thought for me! There were two main reasons that caused me to consider a career in agricultural education. First, my own agriculture teachers changed my life, and I realized how much influence a teacher can have if they work with, teach, and believe in a student, especially over four years. Most teachers don't get the opportunity to get to know a student that well. Secondly, as I've been both a 212/360 Leadership Conference and Washington Leadership Conference Trainer for the National FFA, I've come to realize what an incredibly rewarding career teaching students can be. Not only do students benefit from my teaching them concepts and curriculum, but I learn just as much, if not more, from their influence and example. Who knows what the future holds as far as careers and decisions goes, but there are a lot of exciting things to be looking towards.