A big thank you to the 2014-2015 Aggie REPS for a fun Fall Kickoff Wednesday night. If you weren’t there – you should have been. There were approximately 240 people in attendance. The students in the Department of Agricultural Economics are a competitive bunch! Students were playing dominoes, 42, ladder golf, corn hole, card games, and giant jenga. There was also a huge Rock, Paper, Scissors competition. Delicious food and drinks were provided FREE from Chick-Fil-A. You need to plan to be at the Fall 2015 Kickoff and be a part of all the excitement!

Chris Flournoy was the winner of the Rock, Paper, Scissors Contest
Brandon Kendziora achieved second place in the Rock, Paper Scissors Contest
Kayla Rybarski won the 42” Flat Screen TV
Beth Henning won the $500 gift card to Champion Fire Arms
Tori Gall won the combination package of a Messina Hof Tour and Concealed Handgun Training

Dr. Ed Rister has been appointed to the M. Edward Rister ’74 Chair in Rural Entrepreneurship. Made possible through private donations, this Chair will support and enhance student learning opportunities. The Chair will provide our students with more real-world experiences and engagement with business owners and those in the public sector from across the country. The Chair will enhance the entrepreneurial capacity of our students and provide networking and engagement opportunities. When you see Dr. Rister be sure to congratulate him on this honor.

NEW WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE - Effective Wednesday, September 17th, students who wish to withdraw from all of their courses should request to do so in Howdy instead of utilizing paper withdrawal forms. To withdraw you should go to the Student Withdrawal channel on the My Record tab in Howdy. Students will use this format for withdrawals up until the 60th class day (which is the last day to Q-Drop.) After that day, students will be directed to the Dean’s Office (515 AGLS Bldg.) for late withdrawal questions and procedures.

Students withdrawing from all courses click on the Student Withdrawal link as seen above, where they will be taken through the Online Withdrawal process. The information important to a student withdrawing from the University that was previously printed on the withdrawal form has been updated and incorporated into the online process through a series of screens students will see prior to entering their request. Students will also receive email updates regarding the status of their withdrawal once it has been submitted. Students must continue monitoring their withdrawal status and official TAMU email for communications related to their withdrawal request.

Deans and dean’s designates will receive e-mail notification of each withdrawal request submitted by students within their college, at which point they will need to approve or deny the request for withdrawal in Howdy in the Student Withdrawal Admin. Once approved, an online workflow process will automatically update the student’s record and withdraw them from all of their courses for the current term, thus completing the official withdrawal process.

OCTOBER 11, 2014 - COLLEGE OF AG & LIFE SCIENCES FREE TAILGATE

- WHEN: 3 hours before kickoff (Kickoff TBA at present.)
- WHERE: The AgriLife Center, 556 John Kimbrough Blvd.
- FOOD: FREE and will be catered by Fuddruckers. So enough food will be purchased, please let us know if you are coming by going to http://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/tailgate-rsvp/ to complete and submit the RSVP form. Please respond by October 6th.

TAILGATE “MUST DO” LIST
- Win prizes, play games or test your knowledge at one of the many outdoor activities.
- Share photos and videos using AGLSTailgate
- Watch the game on the big screen in the AgriLife Center (Food & beverages will not be served during this time, but you are welcome to bring your own.)
- Get the latest news from your department or student organization.
- Reunite with old friends, make new friends, and say hello to current and former faculty and staff.
- An hour & a half before kickoff, the Aggie Way Hymn will be sung. Come and lend your voices!
- **SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2014 - A CELEBRATION OF CHINESE CULTURE**
  - Friday, September 26th, 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., Workshop titled “Steeped in Tradition: Exploring Chinese Culture through Tea & Calligraphy. Registration is required. Contact Amanda Johnson at azj@tamu.edu
  - Saturday, September 27th, 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., FESTIVAL, College Station High School located at 4002 Victoria Ave., College Station. **FREE ADMISSION AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**
  - Monday, September 29th, 12 p.m. – 1:00 p.m., Lecture Titled, “Chinese Foreign Direct Investment in Texas: What it means for Texas’ Economy.” Registration is required. Contact Amanda Johnson at azj@tamu.edu
  - For more information on each event, visit the Confucius Institute website at: confucius.tamu.edu

- **REVEILLE VIII IS RETIRING** Reveille VIII, who has faithfully served as the Texas A&M mascot, will formally retire following Final Review at the conclusion of the spring 2015 semester or upon selection of her successor. Until that time, she will continue to function in her current role as the First Lady of Aggieland. This decision was reached in consultation with her veterinarians at the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. Reveille VIII, who turns nine years old next spring, has participated in hundreds of athletic events, student programs and other activities since coming to campus in August 2008, and is most deserving of this time of rest and relaxation.

  Following her retirement, she will live and be cared for at the state-of-the-art Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center on campus, where she will be able to interact with the Aggie community and where her physical, emotional and medical needs will be met by dedicated Texas A&M veterinarians and others.

- **SEMINARS FOR YOUR CALENDAR**
  - September 29 12-1 p.m. AGLS 129 New Technology in Agriculture & the Borlaug Legacy
    Guest Speaker: Jeff Simmons, CEO, Elanco
  - October 7 12-1 p.m. AGLS 129 U.S. Future Engagement in Agricultural Development
    Guest Speaker: Brady Deaton, Board for International Food & Agricultural Development (BIFAD) and Rob Bertram, USAID
  - October 17 12-1 p.m. AGLS 129 Climate Change & Food Security
    Guest Speaker: To be announced later.
  - October 31 12-1 p.m. AGLS 129 Value Chains: The Key to Agriculture Development
    Guest Speaker: A panel of value chain experts from across the globe moderated by the Borlaug Institute.

- If you are looking for things to do in Bryan/College Station, check out the following website that contains an event calendar. [http://www.visitaggieiland.com/thingsto-do/](http://www.visitaggieiland.com/thingsto-do/)

Have a great weekend!