A pandemic is having many positive impacts on local economies. With this boom in the industry, comes a boom in the need for employees. Ohio State is now in the position to benefit students, breweries, and the university itself by establishing and building a strong program. “We want to make sure to give the students a taste of what is a commercial setting, with support of the chair we have been able to get a microbrewery,” said Rodriguez-Saona. “It’s an intermediate stage piece of equipment that is going to provide understanding of the complexity that goes into making beer.”

A booming and resilient industry

Unlike other businesses, more Columbus breweries have opened rather than closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are over 45 breweries in central Ohio which have generated $111 million in economic output and created over 1200 jobs. The expansion of breweries after the pandemic is having many positive impacts on local economies. With this boom in the industry, comes a boom in the need for employees. Ohio State is now in the position to benefit students, breweries, and the university itself by establishing and building a strong program. “We want to make sure to give the students a taste of what is a commercial setting, with support of the chair we have been able to get a microbrewery,” said Rodriguez-Saona. “It’s an intermediate stage piece of equipment that is going to provide understanding of the complexity that goes into making beer.”

Added Value

The brewing science minor is a terrific addition to anyone who has already completed biology courses, or chemistry courses. It is a way to give value to the information you learn from a general education class and utilize it as a career or side gig. Not only is the brewing science minor great for students, there is a possibility it will be available as a certificate class in the future. In 2021, Je Anne Osborne, assistant dean of Food Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, supports the idea of expanding the program to people beyond college students. “Because there are a lot of folks in the state of Ohio that would be interested in learning about the brewing industry and the science behind it,” said Osborne. “There may