

February 2016 Volume 38, Issue 3

Exchange

AAEA Trust Member Profile:



Mohammad Jahangir Alam Professor Bangladesh Agricultural University

You won the 2015 Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship for your research proposal: Analysing

the Determinants of Farmer's and Miller's
Participation in the Public Rice Procurement
Program in Bangladesh: Implication for
Sustainable Food Security, how is your research
progressing?

I feel honored that I have won the Uma Lele Fellowship 2015. I am confident that this will enable me to work on an issue which has captivated my attention for a while. The progress of research is going well. I am doing literature review, cleaning and preparing data matrix. Hope I can speed up my analysis and can start writing a paper right after completion of my current research stay at Cornell University.

Your mentor is Gail Cramer; how did you two connect on this research topic?

I knew Prof. Gail Cramer, Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness of Louisiana State University, since my stay, as a Visiting Scholar at the University of Arkansas in 2009. I have read one of his books which I found very useful for our students in Bangladesh. Therefore, I brought a copy to my home university (Bangladesh Agricultural University) in Bangladesh and included it in my lectures and references.

However, later it was a coincidence – fortunately I have found him as my mentor of the travel grant program for researchers from LILMI countries, in the 2013 AAEA Annual Meeting at Washington D.C. Prof. Cramer made very good comments on my presented paper which helped me a lot to improve the quality of that paper. Since then, we were in contact and searching for opportunity to work together. Since I have known him for several years I was also familiar with his areas of research. However, finally, I consulted with him on the topic I could focus on and he also found my proposed topic interesting. I am very much grateful to him. This is the story of connection to my mentor on this research topic.

What led you to pursue food and agricultural economics?

I was motivated to pursue the degrees in food and agricultural economics because of my home country which is an agrarian based country where agriculture is one of the main drivers of the economy. It provides food, income, employment etc. directly or indirectly. The concept of economics - the best use of `scarce` resources was more appropriate, playing a very important role in our everyday real world life. I have seen the poor small and marginal farming communities from my childhood. However, I was shocked when I found that these small and marginal farming communities work hard from dawn to dusk, producing food for us but at the end they receive very little. This triggered my interest to pursue food and agricultural economics when I completed

my higher secondary school education. Then I found pursuing agricultural economics was fascinating. I hope I could have a chance to use my acquired knowledge and skills at home and abroad for the betterment of the poor small and marginal farming communities who are sacrificing their every elation to feed the world and keep us smiling with good food.

What advice would you offer aspiring agricultural/applied economists?

Keep your eyes on the dynamics in food and agricultural industry, try to bridge what experts are saying and what are the reality. Try to be part of the professional organizations like AAEA, IAAE etc. This will definitely help you a lot to keep moving. Try to keep understanding the view points of the different stakeholders in the industry – producers, traders, consumers and policy makers. This will give a good mix to love food and agricultural economics field.

AAEA News



2016 AAEA Annual Meeting EXECON Pre-conference Workshop The "How-To" of Experimental Economics in Agricultural, Environmental & Applied Research

At the Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA on July 30, 2016, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Organized by

Carola Grebitus (Arizona State University), Matthew Rousu (Susquehanna University)

Organizing Committee

Jay Corrigan (Kenyon College), Gregory Colson (University of Georgia)

Program

Hosted by the new *Experimental Economics Section*, the objective of this AAEA pre-conference workshop is to teach how to run economic experiments. The primary purpose is to contribute to the attendees' understanding of the research methods and tools for using experimental economics to analyze individual decision-making. The workshop program includes three speakers who will help provide the nuts-and-bolts details of running an experiment. Topics include:

- What type of subject pool should one consider?
- How much in incentives should be provided, and how to recruit participants?
- · How to handle difficult participants.

- · What is IRB and why is it important?
- Does everything you tell participants have to be truthful?
- How to combine "standard" methods, such as auctions or choice experiments, with novel methods, such as eye tracking.
- · How does an experiment including eye tracking differ from a "normal" experiment?
- How to collect and analyze data with eye tracking?

Schedule

- 1:00pm-2:00pm: "I want to run an experiment but haven't done it before: How do I begin?" Matthew Rousu, Susquehanna University
- 2:00pm-3:00pm: "I want to incorporate eye tracking in my experiment! Now what?" Carola Grebitus, Arizona State University
- 3:00pm-4:00pm: "Field Experiments in Agri-Environmental Research" Kent Messer, University of Delaware
- 4:00pm-5:00pm: Open discussion, networking

Workshop Fee

The Workshop fee is \$25, including beverages. Pre-registration is required. Registration should open in mid-March, you will be notified when registration is open.

Sponsored by the USDA Center for Behavioral and Experimental AgriEnvironmental Policy Research (C-BEAR), providing stipends to students (more information to follow)

For more information, please contact Carola Grebitus (carola.grebitus@asu.edu)

Renew Your AAEA Membership for 2016

You can now renew your AAEA membership for 2016 on the <u>AAEA website</u>. Simply log in to the "My Account" section to renew. Completing your renewal online saves you time by filling out most of the information for you automatically.

The benefits of your AAEA membership only last through the spring of 2016, so be sure to renew soon to ensure you keep receiving services from



AAEA throughout the upcoming year.





Teaching, Learning, and Communications Section (TLC)

2016 Teaching, Learning, and Communication Section: Graduate Student Teaching Award

The TLC Section is an active group of AAEA members interested in the theory, scholarship, and practice of learning, teaching, and communication. Given that a large majority of AAEA members have responsibilities in these three areas, the TLC's activities are developed to enhance members' skills in the on-campus classroom, off-campus workshop, and in a presentation to a community group.

As graduate students are our teachers of tomorrow, the TLC has chosen to sponsor this award to recognize and encourage graduate students who excel in teaching agricultural or applied economics courses.

Any member of the AAEA may submit nominations and selection is made based on nominating materials. Re-nominations are encouraged, providing materials are updated and resubmitted. The Graduate Student Teaching Award is a criterion-based award and is reviewed by a committee of TLC members.

The successful nominee will be required to attend the 2016 AAEA Annual Meetings in Boston. In addition, the winner of the award will participate as a presenter (10–15 minute presentation) in the TLC's track session on teaching tips. This session offers the opportunity for Teaching Award recipients to share teaching tips and have a dialogue with AAEA members. The goal of the session is to share ideas on what successful teachers are doing in and out of the classroom to facilitate learning.

Eligibility

The nominee must have been involved in course instruction (including one or more of laboratory, discussion sections, help section, and online courses) for a minimum of one year (2 semesters, 3 quarters, or the equivalent). Nominee must have been a graduate student in good standing within the year before the nomination, i.e. cannot have graduated prior to August 2015.

Applicants must hold a current Graduate Student Membership in AAEA.

Selection Criteria

The following three major areas are considered in evaluating nominations:

- 1. Quality of teaching;
- 2. Personal commitment to teaching and self-development as a teacher; and
- 3. Involvement in undergraduate extracurricular activities.

Nomination Packet

Nominating materials should demonstrate that the nominee has outstanding ability and performance as a teacher of agricultural or applied economics as defined by the AAEA Vision Statement. The nomination packet shall include the following:

- 1. Award cover page, including membership status to address eligibility. The cover page should include the following information:
 - a. Name, title, professional address, telephone number, email address of the nominator;
 - b. Name, title, professional address, telephone number, email address of the nominee; and
 - c. "TLC Graduate Student Teaching Award Nomination" should be included on the cover page.
- 2. An essay by the nominee on his/her teaching philosophy, not to exceed five typewritten (double-spaced) pages;
- 3. A complete description of nominee's specific teaching involvement;
- 4. A self-evaluation of nominee's teaching activities;
- 5. A summary of student evaluations of teaching, and no more than two letters of support from current or former students:
- 6. Two letters of support from faculty, administrators, or others directly involved in the nominee's teaching activities;
- 7. A statement about nominee's involvement in activities related to teaching (clubs, review sessions, committees, etc.);
- 8. The nominee's resume/vita; and
- 9. Supporting materials may be submitted but are limited to three additional pages.

*All materials are to be submitted as a single electronic PDF file to the Teaching, Learning, and Communication Section Chair.

Please submit a complete electronic application packet by **March 1, 2016,** to: Sierra Howry, TLC Chair, 2015–16 (<u>Sierra.howry@uwrf.edu</u>) or call (715) 425–4275



Food Safety and Nutrition Section (FSN)

Looking back at 2015- it was a great year for our section! We sponsored a successful postconference workshop on "Applying Behavioral and Experimental Economics to Food and Agri-Environmental Issues", co-organized 10 track sessions and one invited paper session. Thus, we have great plans for the 2016 Annual Meetings and we look forward to sharing more details about our track sessions and planned events with you over the coming months. You may already mark your calendars for the FSN Breakfast and Business meeting, which will take place on Sunday morning, July 31 at 9:30 AM. If you are not a member of our section (yet), we would like to encourage you to stop by this event. We are looking forward to seeing newcomers and regulars. Members in our section address a wide range of research topics

in the areas of food safety, nutrition, and health economics.

The FSN membership is free for Graduate Students. For regular members, please make sure to add the FSN section membership when you renew your AAEA annual membership. If you signed up for the 3-year AAEA membership, you will need to renew your section memberships annually.

At our Breakfast and Business meeting, we will announce the winner of our award for the Best Economics Paper in Food Safety & Nutrition. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meetings in Boston.

Christiane Schroeter
FSN Section Chair

Other News

Scanner Data Workshop Announcement

The Economic Research Service (ERS) is sponsoring a workshop, April 18–19, 2016, for researchers who are currently using IRI scanner data or who are interested in learning more about the data for food policy studies. The aims of the workshop are to (1) disseminate findings from studies that are examining the statistical properties of the data, (2) present results of recent food policy-relevant research conducted using the data, (3) share insights regarding best approaches to working with the data, and (4) provide information to potential new users about how to access the data. The workshop will have separate sessions on Consumer Network (household-based scanner) data, InfoScan (store-based scanner) data, nutrition and product data, efforts to integrate IRI data with other datasets such as FoodAPS, and requirements for accessing the data through ERS for food policy research. The workshop is being organized by RTI International and held at its location in Washington, D.C. There is no registration fee for attending the conference but space is limited. Attendees must register at this site: https://www.eventsbot.com/events/eb017232857. This event is endorsed by the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA).

152th EAAE SEMINAR:

Emerging Technologies and the Development of Agriculture

August 30th - September 1st 2016, Novi Sad, Serbia



Organizers

Serbian Association of Agricultural Economists (SAAE) & Faculty of Economics, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness,

University of Novi Sad

Background

At the beginning of the 21st century, analysts have started to raise concerns about the worldwide slowdown of agricultural supply growth in the presence of a strong rising demand for food but also, increasingly, for energy purposes. Hence, in the past decade the issue of global food security has received increased scrutiny and various responses on how to feed the world over the next 50 years have been proposed. One possible response is to increase agricultural productivity in a sustainable way that is increasing production while limiting negative impacts on natural resources and the environment. Obviously developments in production technologies in agriculture play a key role in this perspective.

To what extent will emerging technologies such as biotechnology, green technologies or ICT contribute to agricultural productivity growth and global food security? What will be the impact of these emerging technologies at the farm level and in particular on land, labour and capital? What will be the implications for farmers in terms of labour decisions, education and information, for instance? How will the food supply chain as a whole react to these changes in terms of organization, performance,

etc.? Finally, to what extent emerging technologies will affect the multifunctional nature of agriculture and its role in rural development?

The seminar will consider contributions addressing any of these issues.

Objectives

The main objective of the Seminar is to bring together scholars, policy makers and professionals of the food supply chains who have interest in topics related to emerging technologies in agriculture in order to:

- Stimulate discussions, collaborations and future research on the various topics addressed in the Seminar.
- ii) Allow exchange of ideas, knowledge, and experiences between participants with different backgrounds.
- iii) Review and better evaluate the added value of emerging agricultural technologies; take stock of the current experiences with the concrete implementation of such technologies all around the world; gather information on their observed or expected performances in terms of productivity, sustainability and the multifunctionality of agriculture.
- iv) Present new ideas and contributions on how to analyze and measure the impact of emerging technologies on agricultural productivity, the organization and performances of the whole supply chains and rural development.

v) Identify opportunities, challenges, trade-offs related to these emerging technologies, their impacts and their spill-over effects across countries, in order to support decision-making by policy makers as well as by agribusiness professionals.

Participants

Agricultural economists, professionals involved in agribusiness, and policy makers are expected to attend and present their theoretical and empirical papers on the themes of the Seminar. About 80 to 100 participants, including keynote speakers, oral paper presenters and poster exhibitors, are expected to attend.

Keynote Speakers:

- Johan Swinnen, past-president of IAAE, University of Lueven (KUL), Belgium
- Bernhard Brümmer, University of Göttingen, Germany
- Koviljko Lovre, Faculty of Economics, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

Upcoming Deadlines

- Deadline for submission of abstracts:
 January 31, 2016 Deadline has passed
- Notification of acceptance/rejection:
 March 15, 2016
- Deadline for submission of full papers/posters: July 20, 2016
- Registration opens: June 1, 2016
- Deadline for registration: July 30, 2016

You need to be a member of the EAAE before registration. Otherwise your registration will not be accepted. EAAE membership fees for the triennial period 2016–2018 are € 100. More information: www.eaae.org

Seminar registration fee (for members of the EAAE): 200 €, for PhD students/research scholars: 100 €. Participation fees include: two lunches, gala dinner, coffee breaks, excursion trip, CD proceedings.

If there are any registration questions please contact Žana Jugović-Bošković – "Astakos", Belgrade by calling +381 (0)11 2430685 or email questions to office@astakos.com

Call for WAEA and CAES Selected Papers

The WAEA and CAES are excited to invite you to be a part of the program for the 2016 Joint Annual Meetings of the Western



Agricultural Economics Association and the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society this June 21-23 in Victoria, British Columbia.

The website for selected paper submission is now live at: https://editorialexpress.com/caeswaea2016/

Please be careful to select whether you are a WAEA or CAES member using the dropdown box when you begin the submission of your paper (after the initial screens asking for your personal information). There is one change in the information that details how to prepare your proposal in the Winter Newsletter—the deadline is now **February 17, 2016**.

More information is available at:

http://www.waeaonline.org/UserFiles/file/WAEAWinter2015Newsletter.pdf



Innovative Methods and Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions

Call for applications for IMMANA Grants (Round 2) *Apply by February 15*

Competitive Research Grants to Develop Innovative Methods and Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions (IMMANA Grants) are now open for applications under Round 2.



IMMANA Grants aim to accelerate the development of innovative and interdisciplinary metrics and methods filling the key knowledge gaps.

This workstream of the IMMANA programme is led by the <u>London School of Hygiene & Tropical</u> <u>Medicine</u>. It consists of 15–20 research grants of up to £250,000 to be awarded in two rounds.

The deadline for the submission of concept memos under Round 2 is 15 February 2016.

More information

Download the call

Watch the recording and access slides from the information webinar

What some Grant-holders are up to (videos):
World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

<u>Surveillance of Climate-Smart Agriculture for Nutrition</u>
(SCAN)

Tufts University

Indicators of Affordability of Nutritious Diets in Africa (IANDA)













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Job Openings

Be sure to visit the <u>AAEA Job Board!</u> Our new platform allows employers to post open positions on the site and browse the resumes of qualified candidates. Applicants can apply for these positions online and upload their resumes anonymously, protecting their personal information





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Submit all items to:

Submit all items to: AAEA

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Coming up in the next issue of The Exchange...

Government Relations Update
 Be sure to check out the <u>AAEA Events & Deadlines Calendar</u>