

President's Column

November 2014



As scientists largely working under the support and sponsorship of public resources, we are entrusted an important responsibility in how we conduct our research, teaching, and outreach activities. Of course, we all have our own

moral and ethical guidelines that hopefully influence every aspect of our lives, and not just our professional activities. The AAEA Board and administrative team pay very careful attention to avoid any situations that may be even *perceived* to present a possible conflict of interest.

Policies for AAEA officers, directors, and committee members are spelled out in very precise terms in the AAEA Operating Policies (see pages 6–7 of the Operating Procedures, which is available online at http://www.aaea.org/UserFiles/file/Operating_Policies_0814.pdf). Conflicts of interest are also of critical importance to the research and outreach output of members of our Association. Disclosure policies have also been established for the Association's publications (the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Applied Economic Perspectives*, and *Policy*, and *Choices*). These policies are posted online at <https://www.aaea.org/publications/agricultural--applied-economics-association-disclosure-policy>. Most, if not all of us have a similar set of policies at our home institutions or organizations.

I have often wondered if we were not perhaps too cautious in the fact that we disqualify Board members from being eligible for awards or from providing statements of support for AAEA Fellow nominations. However, it is essential that any perceived conflict of interest be addressed in our operating policies so as to eliminate any ambiguity. I therefore strongly support the constraints imposed by these policies and encourage everyone to always be thoughtful about any possible circumstances that may be construed to represent a conflict of interest.

Such conflicts have taken on a new emphasis in another dimension of our professional activities. As lines between private and public funding become ever more blurred and as competition for shrinking resources becomes more intense, we are faced with a whole new set of challenges. Individuals may end up in the rather awkward position of being expected to advocate for certain positions to secure the resources necessary to support the primary missions of our profession. Though this is not new, political pressures sometimes play a role in this process. As economists, we are all

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familiar with the political economy of the allocation of public funds and the important roles of pressure and influence groups. Each situation is unique and we all have an obligation to our home institutions to secure the resources needed to run our programs.

However, we must acknowledge the hazardous potential for advocacy and the search for such resources to influence the direction and conclusions of our research. I believe we all have a moral and ethical obligation to stay true to the facts and to maintain a positive (rather than normative) stance on economic policy issues. Policy positions and research conclusions should be bolstered by economic theory and empirical facts. Honesty demands such and if it feels wrong it probably is. I tried to address many of these issues in my Presidential address but these points are worth repeating.

No one should apologize for having the resources necessary to carry out their mission—that is, as long as the availability of these resources does not inappropriately influence the mission. Whether resources are allocated competitively or noncompetitively, I believe they are usually distributed in a manner that reflects an ability to accomplish the mission. Economic efficiency of the process necessarily implies such. We should all, however, be vigilant to ensure that our policy positions and conclusions do not become endogenous to these resources. The perception of impropriety may be sufficient to taint our mission.

A related issue has also taken on increasing importance—that of paid, professional consulting. The fact is that talent will be demanded and compensated by the market. Again, no one should apologize for having abilities that are valued by the private sector and government and for taking advantage of

this demand. The danger exists in the potential for such compensation to influence our policy positions and research conclusions. Once again, the aforementioned policies provide good guidance and one's own moral and ethical beliefs should shape their behavior in this regard. Likewise, each organization likely has a well-defined set of rules that should be strictly adhered to. One certainly should not accept external compensation for responsibilities that we are already compensated for by our home institution. For example, it would certainly be ethically questionable to accept external compensation for conducting university outreach within one's own state. Again, basic common sense and decency as well as the rules that are clearly codified in nearly every organization would hopefully steer professionals away from such hazards.

An outstanding article entitled "The Moonlighting Professor" addressing these issues appears on the Canadian University Affairs website <http://www.universityaffairs.ca/the-moonlighting-professor.aspx>. The article notes that "having faculty on the payroll who are also in demand by government or industry is a sign of prestige that can attract good students and boost a school's stature. There's an added bonus when their work generates media exposure." H. E. A. Campbell, who is academic vice president at Memorial University, is quoted in the article stating that "such activities keep our professors current on developments in the field and also help transfer our knowledge and expertise to working professionals."

The issues are complex and we are still attempting to discern the important points. I have adopted a personal policy of placing a written record of all of my grants, contracts, and private consulting activities on my university website. I would recommend this to

everyone. I always attempt to explicitly identify any relevant sources of funding or compensation when a paper is published. However, the relevancy of any particular issue is often a matter of opinion. Did a consulting project that I did 25 years ago have the potential to influence my current reporting on a similar topic? I emphatically say no, but for the record, the history is publicly documented in writing and is available to anyone wanting to indulge their suspicions.

I feel very fortunate to have had the experiences, opportunities, and interactions

with outstanding colleagues that make up our profession. I believe that intentional conflicts of interest and biases are very rare. At the same time, I implore everyone to constantly be vigilant about any situation where conflicts may be perceived. Truth, as it is revealed through fact, analysis, and theory, should be at the core of our efforts and should be transparent and unbiased.

Barry Goodwin
AAEA President



Join AAEA at the
2015 ASSA Annual
Conference in Boston, MA!

****Renew Your AAEA Membership for 2015****

You can now renew your AAEA membership for 2015 on the AAEA website (<http://www.aaea.org/membership/>). 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.

Alternatively, if you prefer to renew using the paper form, be sure to keep an eye on your mailbox as paper forms will be sent out in early December.

The benefits of your 2014 AAEA membership only last through the spring of 2015, so be sure to renew soon to ensure that you keep receiving services from AAEA throughout the upcoming year.

As a reminder, you need to be a 2015 member in order to submit an abstract or proposal for the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. Renew early to save time during the submission process!

Now Accepting Proposals for the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting

AAEA is now accepting presentation and session proposals for the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. Submit your proposal(s) through the online [Abstract Management System](#). To access the system, you must log into your AAEA account or create a new account. If you forgot your username or password, please e-mail info@aaea.org for assistance.

You must be a current 2015 AAEA or WAEA member or pay a \$25 submission fee to submit. Please note that all presenters at the meeting are required to be current AAEA or WAEA members. View membership rates at <http://www.aaea.org/membership>. For more information, please see the Calls for Proposals below and the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting webpage](#).

| Call for Proposals: | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Pre/Post-conference Workshops | Deadline: December 4, 2014 |
| Invited Paper Sessions | Deadline: December 4, 2014 |
| Invited Case Study Papers | Deadline: December 4, 2014 |
| Track Sessions | Deadline: December 4, 2014 |
| Organized Symposia | Deadline: January 15, 2015 |
| Selected Presentation, Papers & Posters | Deadline: January 15, 2015 |

2015 AAEA & WAEA
JOINT ANNUAL MEETING



If you have any questions regarding submissions for the Joint Annual Meeting, please contact the AAEA Business Office at info@aaea.org or (414) 918-3190.

Call for Award Nominations: 2015 AAEA Annual Awards

The awards program of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association recognizes and enhances professional excellence in agricultural and applied economics. Students, early career professionals, and experienced members are selected on the basis of their achievements in research, teaching and extension activities. Winners are recognized at the AAEA Annual Meeting during the AAEA Awards and Fellows Ceremony. Nominators must be current AAEA members. All 2015 AAEA Annual Award nominations are due by **February 9, 2015**. Please see the calls below for instructions on how to submit an award nomination.

- [Bruce Gardner Memorial Prize for Applied Policy Analysis Award](#)
- [Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Awards](#)
- [Distinguished Teaching Awards](#)
- [Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award](#)
- [Outstanding Master's Thesis Awards](#)
- [Publication of Enduring Quality Award](#)
- [Quality of Communication Award](#)
- [Quality of Research Discovery Award](#)

Questions? Please contact the AAEA Business Office at info@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.



Pre/Post-conference Workshops

Call for Proposals

The AAEA Executive Board invites proposals for Pre- and Post-conference Workshops at the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The deadline for proposals is **Thursday, December 4, 2014**. Selections will be finalized at the AAEA Executive Board meeting in early January and organizers will be notified soon thereafter by the AAEA President.

Submissions will be judged on the merits of the proposal and the space and time available at the Joint Annual Meeting. Organizers will work with the AAEA Business Office to develop a budget for final approval at the January Board meeting.

Please fill out the [Pre- and Post-conference Workshop Proposal form](#) to submit a proposal. Finished forms should be sent to Kristen Wright at kwright@aaea.org. The form asks the proposers for the following information:

1. Title of proposed session and the proposed date and time that the workshop would take place (potential dates include Saturday, July 25 and Wednesday, July 29).
2. Objectives of the workshop, as well as the timeliness of the subject and why the content of the workshop is relevant to AAEA members/meeting attendees.
3. Potential speakers, presenters, or panel members, and the total time required for these presentations.

4. Intended audience and expected attendance at the workshop.
5. Contact information for organizers in charge of overall development and coordination (complete addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses).
6. Complete budget information, which includes: financial support expected, speakers' fees, stipends, and honoraria, catering needs, administrative fees, and other income and costs. Detailed information will be needed, including any catering requests (e.g. boxed lunches, buffet, coffee breaks, etc.), so that a registration fee for the workshop can be determined.
7. Any requests for membership and/or registration fee waivers that may be required in order to properly conduct the workshop.
8. Any special software or electronic needs, including if the attendees will be required to bring a laptop.

Incomplete proposals cannot be considered. Please include as much information as needed when submitting; there is no minimum or maximum length for the proposal.

[Pre- and Post-conference Workshop Proposal forms](#) should be sent to kwright@aaea.org by **Thursday, December 4, 2014**. For more information, contact the AAEA Business Office at (414) 918-3190

Call for Proposals: **Invited Paper Sessions**

AAEA welcomes [proposals for Invited Paper sessions](#) for the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco. Papers in these Invited Paper sessions may be published in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* in March 2016 subject to review (If your paper is accepted, you must inform Kristen Wright at kwright@aaea.org of your plan to submit *or* not to submit to *AJAE* by March 18. Within that notification, authors should include a 250 word abstract of their paper).



Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using the online submission system by **Thursday, December 4, 2014**. The online submission system is now open.
<https://aaea.execinc.com/edibo/abstracts>

Proposed session formats must include either two papers with two discussants or three papers with one discussant. Four paper sessions will not be considered.

Proposals will be evaluated by how well they satisfy the following criteria:

- The proposed session supports the objective of the Association to further the development and dissemination of systematic knowledge of agricultural and applied economics.
- The importance of the session is well-justified.
- The proposed papers are innovative and the topics are likely to generate meaningful discussion during the presentation, as well as interest in a published version.
- It is likely that the session format will be conducive to a clear, focused, and informative presentation of the topics proposed.
- The session theme and paper topics are not repetitive of themes and/or topics previously addressed in Invited Paper sessions.
- The set of sessions will appeal to a broad spectrum of the membership.

Proposals should include session title, session rationale, titles and two-page abstracts of each proposed presentation, and names and contact information of authors, discussants, and moderators.

Proposals will be reviewed and selected by a subcommittee of the AAEA Board. Final versions of the invited papers must be submitted to AgEcon Search by June 24, 2015 and should be submitted to the *AJAE* Proceedings Issue Editor by the same date if the authors wish the invited paper to be reviewed for publication in the *AJAE*.

If you have any questions about submitting an Invited Paper session proposal, please contact Kristen Wright at kwright@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Call for Proposals:**Case Study Invited Paper Session**

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Case Study Invited Paper Session

AAEA welcomes proposals for [Case Studies for a special Invited Paper session](#) that will be part of the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco. Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using the online submission system by **Thursday, December 4, 2014**. The online submission system is now open <https://aaea.execinc.com/edibo/abstracts>.

Cases in this Invited Paper session may be published in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* in January 2016, subject to review (If your paper is accepted, you must inform Anna Douangphachanh at adouangphachanh@aaea.org of your plan to submit *or* not to submit to *AJAE* by March 18. Within that notification, authors should include a 250 word abstract of their paper).

Proposals are requested for case studies that show how the application of economic principles to decision making in the public and/or private sectors leads to better decisions. Any topic area that illustrates the application of economic principles is acceptable. Topic areas focusing on emerging issues such as: renewable ingredients, energy economics, food safety, and company environmental policies (e.g., green scorecard) are encouraged. Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Deals with a problem that has a high level of importance/interest/relevancy to members of AAEA.

- Clear and concise teaching objective(s) and target audience(s) (e.g. undergraduate students, graduate students, extension audiences).
- Case summary that presents solutions and explanations of how the learning objectives are realized.
- Leads to a better understanding of how the application of economic principles improves decision making.
- A general description of the teaching plan for presenting the case to include expected student use of reference materials.

Proposals should include case title, names and contact information of the authors, and a case outline that covers the company or situation profiled, as well as a detailed outline for the case study. The outline should be 3–5 pages in length and a maximum of 2,000 words. The proposal must also contain an outline and ideas for a teaching note, although the teaching note will not be published with the case. Of the cases submitted, three winning case submissions will be accepted for presentation at the AAEA meetings by February 12, 2015.

Selected case studies (with teaching note when applicable) should be completed by April 14, 2015. These completed versions will be reviewed by the Invited Case Study Committee, and feedback to improve the cases will be provided to the author(s). Final versions of the cases must be submitted to AgEcon Search by June 24, 2015 and should be submitted to the *AJAE* Proceedings Issue Editor by the same date if the authors wish the case study to be reviewed for publication in the *AJAE*.



Call for Proposals

Track Sessions sponsored by AAEA Sections

The AAEA Executive Board invites [Track Session proposals](#) for the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco. Initial proposals need to be submitted by **Thursday, December 4, 2014**, to Sarah Kenner at skenner@aaea.org. Final, detailed submissions associated with each session are due by March 16, 2015. The AAEA Business Office will work with each Section that submits proposals on their final submission.

Tracks are a set of multiple sessions submitted by AAEA Sections, scheduled throughout the meeting and devoted to a common interest area or topic. The AAEA President determines the number of sessions allocated to each section.

Section leaders are responsible for managing and submitting Track Session proposals. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for a Track Session, please contact the chair of the Section for more information about the session topics that they are seeking. Proposals submitted to the AAEA Business Office by an individual will be referred back to the Section for approval and official submission.

AAEA has created a [Track Session Outline form](#) for Section Leaders to use when submitting their initial outlines in December. This form should be submitted for each session, by the leader of the sponsoring section.

Specific Track Sessions can also be considered as Invited Paper sessions. These sessions need to be submitted through the abstract submission system as an Invited Paper session (see the call for Invited Paper Sessions for more information), and included with the initial Track Session proposals due in December, with an indication that it has also been submitted as an Invited Paper Session. If the proposed Invited Paper session is not accepted, it will still be included as a traditional Track Session.

Please contact Sarah Kenner at skenner@aaea.org or (414) 918-3190 if you have any other questions about submitting or participating in a Track Session.

For a full list of the 2015 Joint Annual Meeting Call for Proposals visit the [website](#).

AAEA Sections

Sections are subgroups of the AAEA membership organized to assist members with similar interests to connect and network easily.

American Journal of Agricultural Economics

Call for Applications **Editorship of the *American Journal of*** ***Agricultural Economics***

Editorship appointments for the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (AJAE) are staggered such that two new appointments are made every two years. The AAEA Board now seeks applications for two editors to be appointed for a four-year term, beginning in January 2016. Each editor handles approximately one-fourth of the submitted manuscripts and makes independent editorial decisions on these submissions. The degree to which candidate's expertise complements that of the continuing editors, James Vercammen and Junjie Wu, will be considered in the selection process.

In addition, editors share the administrative responsibilities of managing the AJAE. Each editor should plan to dedicate 25 to 40 percent of his/her time to AJAE editorial duties. AAEA will provide financial assistance to defray some portion of the editors' time and most expenses.

The new editors should be prepared to begin the transition process on August 1, 2015 and expect to be fully engaged in editorial duties by January 1, 2016. The AAEA Board will make final selections by early 2015. Interested candidates can consult the journal website for information on the journal at <http://www.ajae.oxfordjournals.org/>. Please note that all editors need to maintain their AAEA membership throughout their service to the journal.

Applications should include a brief statement expressing interest which should include applicant's areas of expertise and editorial philosophy for the AJAE, curriculum vitae (including descriptions of previous editorial work) and statements of administrative support from the candidate's department chair, dean or other appropriate administrative officer. Applications should be sent electronically via PDF to Brian Mondragón Jones, Executive Director, at bmjones@aaea.org by December 1, 2014. Nominations of potentially interested candidates who can then be solicited for their materials are also welcome.

Joint EAAE/AAEA Seminar Consumer Behavior in a Changing World: **FOOD, CULTURE AND SOCIETY**

NAPLES, ITALY | **March 25-27, 2015**



Joint EAAE/AAEA Seminar

The main goal of the seminar is to provide an integrated multidisciplinary approach to the analysis of food consumption and consumer behavior. It aims to encourage broad discussion among economists, sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists and marketing scholars on the role of food consumption in the late modern society and on the need to adopt innovative tools for the analysis of consumer's behavior and choices.

For more information on the seminar, please visit the main page at <http://www.143eaae-aaea-seminar.org/>.

- ~~October 31, 2014: Abstract submissions due~~ **Deadline Passed**
- **December 1, 2014:** Notification of acceptance/rejection
- **January 20, 2015:** Last day to register for the seminar
- **February 28, 2015:** Submission of full versions of accepted papers due

People Section

University of California – Davis

- New Appointments: **Tim Beatty**, Associate Professor; **Quentin Stoeffler**, Post-doctoral Fellow
- Award: **Aaron Smith**, AAEA, Quality of Communication Award
- Honorary Position: **Michael Carter**, Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research
- Returns from Leave: **Steve Boucher**; **Pierre Mérel**
- Retirement: **Richard Howitt**, 44 years of service
- Visitor: **Yauhara Shimamura**, Associate Professor, Kobe University, Visiting Professor, September 2014–February 2015.



California Polytechnic State University

- Award: **Christiane Schroeter**, California Polytechnic State University, Faculty Fellow



Colorado State University

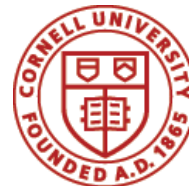
- Appointment Change: **James Pritchett**, Assistant VP in Office of Engagement



- Awards: **Dr. Kellie Enns**, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, New Teacher Award; **Becca Jablonski**, Food Distribution Research Society, The Richardson–Applebaum Award; **Tyler Cozzens**, Colorado State University, Jack L. Smith Scholarship; **Michelle Kibler and Janine Stone**, Colorado State University, S. Lee Gray Scholarship; **Alex Maas**, Colorado State University, Dr. Robert A. Young Scholarship; **Emily Rudder**, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) scholarship
- Leave: **Dr. Stephan Kroll** sabbatical, WZB (Berlin Social Science Center) and PIK (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany), January 1 to May 15, 2015

Cornell University

- Awards: **David Just**, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Applied Research; **Miguel Gomez**, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, Rising Star Faculty Award



University of Delaware

- Honorary Position: **Titus Awokuse**, Nigerian National Agricultural Policy Committee, University of Delaware

University of Idaho

- Award: **Amy Hilland**, AAEA, Outstanding MS Thesis Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Stephen Turi**, MS, Analyst, US Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Retirement: **C. Wilson Gray**, 34 years of service



University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- New Appointment: **Teresa Serra Devesa**, Associate Professor



International Food Policy Research Institute

- New Appointments: **Lieven Huybregts**, Research Fellow; **Isabel Lambrecht**, Associate Research Fellow
- Awards: **Ruth Meinzen-Dick**, Land and Ecosystems, "Best Outcome Story" award; **Nurul Islam**, Bangladesh Development Initiative, Lifetime Achievement Award



University of Kentucky

- New Appointments: **Yuqing Zheng**, Assistant Professor; **Todd Davis**, Assistant Extension Professor
- Appointment Change: **Alison Davis**, Extension Professor
- Awards: **Ben Collier**, 2014 AAEA Outstanding Dissertation Award; **Tyler Mark**, 2014 AAEA / C-FARE Early Career Leadership Award; **Ani Katchova**, Economic Research Service, 2014 Bruce Gardner Outstanding Visiting Economist Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Vijay Subramaniam**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Morehead State University



- Honorary Position: **Mike Reed**, Maejo University, Honorary Ph.D. in Business Administration

University of Maryland

- **Positions Taken by Recent Graduates:** **Eduardo Nakasone**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University; **Pinar Gunes**, PhD, Instructor, University of Alberta



Michigan State University

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Helder Zavale**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Eduardo Mondlane University; **Sara Qanti**, MS, Assistant Professor Agriculture, Padjadjaran University; **Ty Lawson**, MS, Presidential Management Fellow, National Institutes of Health; **Alexandra Peralta**, PhD, Lecturer, University of Adelaide
- Visitor: **Jianxin Guo**, Research Associate Professor, Institute of Information on Agricultural Science and Technology, Visiting Scholar, 2014–2015



University of Missouri

- New Appointment: **Jamille Palacois Rivera**, Assistant Teaching Professor
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Catharine Weber**, MS, Agricultural Economist, SES, Inc.



University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- New Appointment: **Nicholas Brozovic**, Associate Professor and Director of Policy for the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Sarah Rehkamp**, Agricultural Economist, Food Markets Branch, FED, Economic Research Service, USDA
- Retirement: **Gary D. Lynne**, 19 years of service



New Mexico State University

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Patricia Sanchez**, Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, International Settlement Auditor, Miami, Florida; **Hector Hernandez**, Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, PhD Graduate Assistant, University of Illinois; **Pablo D. Mayen**, Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, Accounting Analyst, Agri Stats, Inc.; **Eduardo Medina**, Master of Agriculture with concentration in Agribusiness, Agricultural Mediator, New Mexico State University



North Dakota State University

- Award: **Dr. Frayne Olson**, Association for Communication Excellence, Communicator of the Year



The Ohio State University

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Jason Bienenfeld**, Marketing Analyst, Fidelity Investment; **Kyle Fluegge**, Post Doctoral Fellow, Case Western Reserve University
- Visitors: **Bao, Lin**, Associate Professor, Jiangsu Normal University, P.R China;



Cardosa, Leonardo Chaves Borges, Visiting Scholar, Universidade Federal De Parana, PhD Candidate; **Kang, Hye-Jung**, Associate Professor, Chonnam National University, Korea, August 2014 – July 2015; **Tang, Yingmei**, Associate Professor, Nanjing Agricultural University; **Feng, Zhe**, Peking University, Beijing, China

Purdue University

- Appointments: **Otto Doering**, Department of Interior's Invasive Species Advisory Committee
- Awards: **Raymond Florax**, European Investment Bank , European Prize in Regional Science; **Nicole Olynk Widmar**, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists Association, PUCESA Early Career Award; **Corinne Alexander**, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists Association, PUCESA Mid Career Award; **Jim Mintert**, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists Association, Purdue Extension Director's Award; **Janet Ayres**, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists Association, IACED Rural Development Leadership Award

PURDUE

Sam Houston State University

- New Appointments: **Jason Franken**, Assistant Professor; **Shyam Nair**, Assistant Professor
- Awards: **Foy Mills, Jr.**, Non-land-grant Agricultural and Renewable Resources Universities (NARRU), Distinguished Educator Award; **Kyle Ferrell, Foy Mills, Jr. and Thomas Sosebee**, TBLC, Outstanding Poster– Innovation Track; **Kyle Ferrell**, NACTA, 2nd place Graduate Student Poster Competition



Sam Houston
State University

USDA - Economic Research Service

- New Appointments: **Seth Wechsler**, Economist; **Maria Bowman**, Economist; **Sarah Tulman**, Economist; **Christopher Burns**, Economist; **Dan Prager** Economist; **Elina Tselepidakis**, Economist; **Megan Sweitzer**, Economist; **Sarah Rehkamp**, Economist
- Retirement: **Carol Jones**, 22 years of services
- Resignations: **Jeremy Weber**; **Michael Livingston**



Member Profile



Ashok K. Mishra
Professor
Louisiana State University

What motivated you to pursue Agricultural/Applied Economics as a

profession?

My motivation to pursue agricultural economics stems from a class that I took as an undergraduate. I clearly recall that we used Paul Samuelson's book "Economics"; I came to the conclusion that economics was a rapidly changing line of inquiry that requires people who are skilled in analyzing and interpreting economic data, and then using it to affect decisions of agents and/or policymakers. Agricultural Economics is an applied field (similar to finance and risk management, labor economics, environmental and natural resource economics, or public policy to name a few) covering many topics beyond agriculture. The field of agricultural economics provides flexibility and opportunities for agribusiness and economic development. I had an avid interest in economic development, particularly in labor economics. In my PhD program I was intrigued by a "Labor Economics" course taught by a professor who was a graduate of University of Chicago. I applied theories learned in that class to analyze farm household behavior and to understand the behavior of agricultural farm workers. And then like they say, the rest is history.

Why did you join AAEA, and how has membership in the Association impacted your Agribusiness graduate fellowship

professional development?

I joined AAEA 1988 when I started my MS degree program. I wanted to integrate myself into the profession and participate in networking with other professionals and publishing scientific work in the association's professional journals (AJAE and AEPP). The profession has provided me with the opportunity to serve as a leader in various capacities (such as chairman of AAEA committees and editor of a journal). AAEA has helped me build my research program and present it to various groups not only in the US but throughout Asia and Europe. The annual meeting of the AAEA has also provided me with opportunities to meet with other economists. Through the profession and AAEA I was able to meet my future employers and research team members.

What advice would you give to an up and coming Agricultural/Applied Economist?

First, I would tell them to become part of a professional organization like AAEA. Organizations like AAEA will continue to have a significant impact on domestic and international affairs. This will give way to meeting people with similar research interests and network with others who have established a mark on the profession. Second, build your program of research that has both depth and breadth. Third, tackle economic problems in a systematic fashion. Fourth, applied economists are well trained in how to analyze practical problems using sound economic theory. So, be sure to acquire the requisite skills in economic theory. Finally, read "Economist" magazine.

Obituaries



BAKER, CHESTER B., DR. Age 96, passed peacefully from this world on Thursday, October 30, 2014. Chet was born in 1918 the eldest child of Florence Heston Bird Baker and Herbert Victor Baker and grew up on a farm near the small town of Mt. Pleasant, IA. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of nearly 72 years, Virginia (Ginny) Baker; his sister, Helen Eckles; and his brother, Robert Baker. He is survived by his three children, Ed Baker, Barbara Chaney, and Tom Baker; their spouses, Beth, John, and

Laura; and his grandchildren, Julie Baker, Deborah Mitchell and Matthew Baker, Kari Edenfield, Josh Chaney, and Nicholas and Allison Baker. He also has seven great-grandchildren. Chet attended Iowa Wesleyan College and joined the US Army to serve for the duration of World War II. Chet married Ginny in 1942 and they moved together to his new station in California. Following the completion of his military service he and Ginny moved to Ames, IA to attend Iowa State University, where he received his Bachelor's degree. He then moved his young family to Berkley, CA where he received a PhD in Agricultural Economics at the University of California. After receiving his Doctorate, he and his growing family moved to Bozeman, MT, where he began his academic career at Montana State College (now Montana State University.) Following a number of years in Bozeman, Chet moved his family to Urbana, IL to become a professor at the University of Illinois. Dr. Baker was, above all things, a teacher and mentor. He treasured his time with his graduate students and took great pride in seeing them succeed. His graduate students, most of whom are now retired, still wrote to him on a regular basis to thank him for his encouragement and wisdom. He traveled extensively throughout his career, lecturing and advising governments around the world on ways to increase their agricultural productivity. He also co-wrote several books on the same subject. He was president of the American Agricultural Economics Association and was a recipient of many prestigious academic awards. His children also benefited from his integrity, his humility and his willingness to listen. His counsel was an important factor in decisions they made and they appreciated his thoughtful and wise advice. In 2005, Chet and Ginny moved from Urbana to Albuquerque to be near family. Moving from their home of nearly fifty years was difficult but being close to family was important to them and they were greatly treasured. Chet's devotion to each and everyone in the family is a lasting legacy. His grandchildren love him deeply and his constant love and concern was a touchstone for his entire family. Church was important to Chet. He was a deacon and an ordained elder of the Presbyterian Church USA. When he moved to Albuquerque, he and Ginny joined the First Presbyterian Church and then moved to Sandia Presbyterian Church where they were members for the rest of their years. A Memorial Service for Chet was held on November 10, 2014 at Daniels Family Funeral Services in New Mexico. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Chet's honor to the United Way of Central New Mexico at www.uwcnm.org or 2340 Alamo Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106 or to Sandia Presbyterian Church at 10704 Paseo Del Norte Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122. To view information or leave a condolence please visit www.danielsfuneral.com Daniels Family Funeral Services 4310 Sara Road SE Rio Rancho, NM 87124 505-892-9920

Other News

Michigan State University invites applications for the Henry and Annabel Larzelere fellowship for graduate study in agribusiness management and marketing. All applicants with interests in these areas are welcome. The fellowship covers tuition, health insurance, and \$2000 monthly stipend for the academic year. Selection will be based upon academic promise, with preference given to those intending to study cooperatives, futures markets or poultry markets. For Fall 2015 admission, apply by January 31, 2015 to the MSU graduate program in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics (<http://www.afre.msu.edu/graduate>).



Save the Date for GMCC-15!

Seventh International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains.

Theme: Coexistence in International Trade
November 17-20, 2015|Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
www.wageningenur.nl/gmcc2015

Pre and post conference workshops and tours|Plenary and concurrent sessions.

Contact: secretariat.gmcc2015@wur.nl



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Call for Papers

IMPORTANT DATES:

Contributed papers submission: January 31, 2015

Notification of acceptance to authors: February 28, 2015

Submission of full paper and registration: April 30, 2015

Poster presentation submission: March 30, 2015

Notification of acceptance to authors: April 15, 2015

Registration to the Workshop: April 30, 2015

The AIEAA (Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics) and the Department of Economics of Roma Tre University co-organize the 6th PhD Workshop of the European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE). The workshop welcomes submissions by PhD students at any stage of their PhD, as well as students who complete their PhD in 2015. There will be two types of contributions: contributed papers and posters presentation. Proposals are welcome in the areas of agricultural, environmental, food and development economics. Proposals should be submitted in English through the workshop website and in the form of extended abstracts. For more information visit: <http://www.aieaa.org/phdworkshop2015>.

Farm Financial Forecasts, November 2014

USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) will release a new farm sector income forecast on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 11:00 AM EDT.

Following the release, ERS Economist, Mitch Morehart, will present *Farm Financial Forecasts* and take questions from the audience in an exclusive USDA webinar on Tuesday, November 25 at 11:45 AM EDT. This is the third forecast for 2014, and it will incorporate new information on production expenses, land values, and the outlook for commodities. The presentation will last approximately 30 minutes with questions and answers immediately after.

Date: Tue, Nov 25, 2014

Time: 11:45 AM EDT

Duration: 30 minutes


Host(s): Economic Research Service

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Economic Research Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Job Openings

Be sure to visit the [AAEA Job Board](#)! 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.



Social Media Join the Conversation



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