

# COSBAE VOICES

A Newsletter of the Committee on the Opportunities & Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics

*COSBAE is a Section of American Agricultural Economics Association*

Volume 4 Issue 1

April 2007

## Message From The Chair

Christopher Davis



Christopher Davis, Chair

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### Editor's Note



Gerald Nyambane, Editor

It is almost one year ago when I took on the responsibility of producing

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As I approach the end of my tenure as Chair of COSBAE, I can sincerely say that serving in this role has not only been an honor and privilege, but a joy as well. My joy and success as a leader has been made possible through the hard work of COSBAE's present executive committee. A leader is only as good as the team of officers he surrounds himself with. COSBAE's present executive committee has shown great optimism and determination and has kept the legacy alive the last four years through thought provoking organized symposia, educational track sessions, an innovative workshop, new media postings, and greater visibility and participation at other national and regional conferences. Expressions of appreciation are also extended to members of COSBAE for their unfailing support, the AAEA executive staff for their superb service, and other Sections for their collaborative efforts to work as one team.

In Portland, Oregon, we have several activities in which we are inviting you to play an active role in. The first activity is the business meeting. Elections of new officers will take place during this meeting. We will be soliciting nominations for the positions of chair, vice-chair, and secretary/treasurer. Nominations for these positions will come via email within the next few months. If you have someone you would like to nominate for one of the positions mentioned above, please respond promptly to the announcement with your nomination.

The second activity is the track sessions. COSBAE submitted and received an acceptance letter to host a track session during the AAEA meetings in Portland, Oregon. The track consists of five organized symposiums, two of which are collaborative efforts with CWEA and the Extension Sections. One of the track's featured sessions will be the student research ses-

sion. This session consists of research conducted by graduate students from North Carolina A&T University, Alcorn State University, and Southern University under the supervision of Dr. Kenrett Jefferson-Moore, Dr. Dovi Ali-poe, and Dr. Patrica E. McLean-Meyinsse.

Our third planned activity is a luncheon to conclude the track sessions. Luncheon theme will be the same as the track sessions. The name of the keynote speaker for the luncheon has not yet been confirmed but will be determined shortly. We are encouraging all members and supporters of COSBAE to attend our luncheon in Portland, Oregon.

The final activity planned for the conference is a COSBAE reception. After the presentations of scholarly research, it has been our custom at the national meetings to host a social event. This year's reception will consist of networking, music and food. We extend invitations to all members, past members, supporters, interested persons, and Agricultural Economics students to come and socialize with us.

As I prepare to pass the baton to the next Chair of COSBAE, I challenge this Section not to just continue the legacy but create a greater legacy of scholastic research and achievement, conference participation, and outreach activities. Help build bridges and highways of academic excellence in both 1862 and 1890 institutions through activities that are collaboratively designed and executed to strengthen research, teaching, and extension programs.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve you for four years.

Christopher G. Davis

## Editor's Note

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COSBAE VOICES. All good things that could happen have done so. Working with Chris Davis, the chairman, as well the other officials, has been a pleasant experience. I look forward to similar or better experiences in future.

We are currently working on having only one listserv but, have not yet completed the process. Hence, some you often receive two emails whenever we send out announcements. We beg your pardon. In time, this process will be completed and the problem of cross posting will thus be addressed.

Further, we would like to encourage members to contributions to future issues of COSBAE VOICES as it evolves to be a medium of choice for communication among members. Finally, we welcome suggestions on any and all things that members would like to be included in the newsletter. Wishing you all a wonderful spring/summer period till we meet at the meetings.

*Gerald Nyambane*

## AAEA Membership Grant for Developing Countries

Now you can help a colleague in a developing country become an AAEA member. Thanks to a grant from the AAEA Foundation, AAEA can now subsidize membership for people from developing countries. AAEA will pay half of an applicable membership fee for a person from a developing country.

Developing countries include those defined as low, lower middle and upper middle income countries by the World Bank.

Potential award recipients include recent graduates who have returned to their developing country, as well as seasoned professionals residing in developing countries. Excluded are current graduate students from developing countries studying at universities in industrial countries.

Applicants must be referred by current AAEA members. Grants must be applied to new, not existing members.

Awardees may apply and receive a grant

in subsequent years if funding is available from the Foundation.

The AAEA Executive Director makes the final decision on the allocation of the funds. If you know of someone who could benefit from this opportunity, please fill out the attached application form and return it to

The AAEA Executive Director,  
AAEA Office,  
415 South Duff, Suite C,  
Ames, IA 50010-6600;

Or

Yvonne@aaca.org.

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## Job Vacancies



**RUTGERS**  
UNIVERSITY

**Position:** Associate or Full Professor –  
Food Policy Research

Appointment: Tenure-track, teaching/  
research position.

**Qualifications:** (1) A national or international reputation for food policy research on topics such as food safety and nutrition policy; (2) experience working with policy makers; (3) PhD in Agricultural Economics, Economics, or a closely related field; and (4) an interest in and ability to teach effectively. International experience is highly desirable.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

Conduct research that responds to the needs of consumers, the food industry, and agriculture on issues such as food safety policy, nutrition policy, and agricultural policy.

Build a research program that enhances the University's scholarly reputation

through publications in top journals and obtaining competitive grants.

Expand the School's research collaborations with policy makers at the state, national, and international level, with the food industry and with consumer groups.

Cooperate and collaborate with appropriate state, university, and college organizations and departments especially the Food Policy Institute, the Food Science Department, the Nutrition Department, and the University's Nutrition Initiative.

Contribute to the department's undergraduate and graduate programs by teaching courses in food policy focusing on nutrition and food safety.

Supervise M.S. and undergraduate students regarding curriculum requirements and independent study.

**Salary/Benefits:**

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications. TIAA/CREF program, vacation, life, medical, and disability insurance programs are

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# Job Vacancies

## Farm Foundation Fellows

### **Objective**

Enhance Farm Foundation's professional expertise in agricultural economics and the rural social sciences, strengthen priority area programs and cultivate more robust networks within the agricultural community.

### **Background**

For more than 70 years, the senior Farm Foundation staff has included leaders in agricultural economics and rural social sciences. We are known for the professional expertise and credibility we lend to the projects we fund. Farm Foundation has built a network of intellectual resources within the agricultural community that can be brought to bear on projects we initiate and/or fund.

Farm Foundation seeks to develop additional professional assets to assist Farm Foundation staff in program development and build more comprehensive networks of support within the agricultural community.

### **Positions**

Farm Foundation seeks to identify Farm Foundation Fellows for each of our six program priority areas. Fellows serve up to three years (subject to annual review). This year we will identify one to three "Fellows. Applications are open for the following priority areas:

Environmental and Natural Resource Issues, Consumer Issues and The Role of Agricultural Institutions.

We will select the strongest applications that match our program priorities.

### **Duties/Responsibilities**

Farm Foundation Fellows:

1. Help Farm Foundation identify and fund new cutting-edge programs in their fields of expertise;
2. Help Farm Foundation manage existing programs, adding their professional expertise to enhance program outcomes and impacts;

3. Assist in the development of Public Issues Education programming;
4. Attend Round Table and other meetings at the request of Farm Foundation to develop networks of contacts within the agricultural community; and
5. Serve as ambassadors for Farm Foundation within their professional circles. Each Fellow will commit the equivalent of a month per year to Farm Foundation activities during the three years of their Fellowship.

Fellows will prepare a report each year summarizing their activities including:

1. Issues identified;
2. Professional interactions related to Farm Foundation projects;
3. Third party funding identified and secured;
4. Projects initiated, worked on or completed; and
5. A summary of Farm Foundation programming in their priority area.

### **Financial Package**

These are part-time positions and each Fellow is expected to continue in his/her current professional position. Compensation for each Fellow will be tailored to individual circumstances. Farm Foundation will provide each Fellow with a stipend roughly equal to one month's compensation in their current position each year of the fellowship and a budget for travel and other miscellaneous expenses.

### **Qualifications**

1. A Ph.D. or equivalent terminal degree in agricultural economics, or related social science including but not limited to rural sociology, agricultural education, communications and/or administration and law. Applicants with degrees in agriculturally related biological or technical sciences will be considered if they have work experience and demonstrated leadership dealing with economic and policy issues related to their training.
2. Work experience of at least eight years beyond the terminal degree.

3. Recognized through publications, awards, professional leadership positions and other venues as an expert and leader in a particular field of study related to a Farm Foundation priority area.
4. Demonstrated ability to work with government, industry and academic leaders.

### **Application**

*Process* Applications must be received by April 20, 2007. Selections will be made by May 25 with positions starting June 1.

Each application must contain:

1. A concise curriculum vita.
2. A proposed plan of work for the three-year fellowship period.
3. Up to three letters of recommendation.
4. An explanation of any special circumstances such as time constraints and current job responsibilities that might limit your interaction with Farm Foundation during the Fellowship period.

Applications (all materials) are limited to 10 single-sided pages.

### **Additional Information**

For additional information about these positions or the application process contact Steve Halbrook, Farm Foundation at [steve@farmfoundation.org](mailto:steve@farmfoundation.org)

POSITION: Administrator, Kansas Farm Management Association Program.



The Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA) program is a highly successful extension education program serving over 3,000 Kansas farm families. The program is comprised of six regional Associations and the KMAR-105 Association, its central data processing unit. The program is executed by KFMA Economists who provide one-on-one farm financial management assistance and education programs to agricul-

## Job Vacancies

tural producers.

The KFMA Administrator is an administrative position within the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University. The Administrator is responsible for administration and programmatic leadership of the KFMA program, as well as conducting an applied research/extension farm management education program. The Administrator must possess the vision and leadership to direct the KFMA program to meet the present needs of producers and the evolving needs in the fast changing production environment. The department seeks an individual who fosters diversity and teamwork, and who has the ability to work with a variety of audiences, including individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds.

**DATE AVAILABLE:** June 18, 2007

**LOCATION:** Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, 66506

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** The Administrator is responsible for all phases of management of the KFMA program. Specific responsibilities include:

- Coordinating the activities of the KFMA Economists with KFMA program objectives and the mission of the Department of Agricultural Economics;
- Developing and conducting an individual performance evaluation and professional improvement program for the KFMA Economists;
- Planning and implementing training programs for the KFMA Economists and office professionals;
- Conducting an active recruiting program to fill vacant KFMA Economist positions;
- Working with a team of six Executive KFMA Economists to advance the mission of the KFMA program, and to market the program;

- Revising and implementing business procedures and policies for operation of the KFMA program;
- Cooperating with K-MAR-105 Association personnel in the development of procedures and policies
- Conducting an applied research program using the KFMA data to address current farm management and policy issues, and disseminating this information through multiple extension outlets.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Required:** Master's degree in agricultural economics, agribusiness, or equivalent field OR a minimum of 10 years of farm management association economist experience;

Demonstrated human resource management skills; demonstrated experience in conducting applied research and conducting outreach education programs in areas related to farm management; excellent written and oral communication skills;

And knowledge of information systems and farm record keeping programs.

**Preferred:** Master's degree and a minimum of five years of Farm Management Association Economist experience.

**SALARY & BENEFITS:** Commensurate with qualifications and experience. KSU offers a full benefit package including retirement plan; group health, dental, and life insurance; worker's compensation, vacation, and sick leave. HOW TO APPLY: Applicants are requested to submit a letter of application, resume, transcripts of all university work, evidence of relevant experience, and the names of three references to:

Bryan Schurle, Head  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
342 Waters Hall  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506-4011  
Deadline for applications is March 30,

2007. Review of applications will begin on this date and continue until the position is filled. For further information, please contact Rodney Jones at (785)532-1957, (e-mail: jonesrd@agecon.ksu.edu). Kansas State University is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. KSU encourages diversity among its employees. Kansas State University is committed to a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of color, race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, age, or other non-merit reasons.



## Announcements:

**COSBAE VOICES** is sending out a call for articles for its 2007 Fall Winter issue. The deadline for submitting articles to the editor is October 15, 2007. Please mark your calendars. Articles should be sent via email to [gerald.nyambane@davenport.edu](mailto:gerald.nyambane@davenport.edu).

We're on the Web  
[www.cosbae.com](http://www.cosbae.com)



## Job Vacancies

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also included.

**Application Procedures:** Interested persons should submit a letter of application, vita, and transcripts, and have letters of recommendation sent directly by three (3) references. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2007, or until a suitable candidate is found. Nominations are also invited. Position is expected to be filled by September 1, 2007, pending university approval. Applications should be sent to:

Dr. Carl E. Pray – Chair, Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
55 Dudley Road  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8520  
Tel: 732-932-9155 x219  
[pray@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:pray@aesop.rutgers.edu)

Rutgers University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Position availability subject to University approval.

## About Our Organization...

COSBAE's mission is to encourage and promote the interests of black agricultural economics professionals within the AAEA structure and the broader agricultural community. Recognizing the importance of shared knowledge among all colleagues, COSBAE membership is open to all interested parties. Membership is \$10 per year. To join, please contact the AAEA office at [www.aaea.org](http://www.aaea.org).

## Announcements

A myriad of papers will be presented on the theme of land, power and sustainability as they relate to the African American experience.

Topics cover such varied issues as a social history of African American agrarianism to the effects of New Deal Resettlement policy to chemical waste sites near minority communities and environmental justice struggles. Discussion groups will follow each session. Jazz and blues performances along with a visual art exhibit will explore how art informs and reflects a culture's relationship to the environment. See a detailed list of presentations along with registration information at <http://www.blackenvirothought.org>

The conference is sponsored by Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, Tuskegee University, the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, The AfroEco Group, Fort Valley State University and the University of Georgia. For more information inquire at [info@blackenvirothought.org](mailto:info@blackenvirothought.org)

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Southern Region SARE Program  
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[ppatton@uga.edu](mailto:ppatton@uga.edu) OR [sare@uga.edu](mailto:sare@uga.edu)

### Executive Committee

Contact Information

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