

China Section Chair-Elect 2025-2026

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Liang Lu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the University of Idaho. Liang is an editor for Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE). He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Berkeley. Liang's research focuses on the economics of supply chain, technology adoption, and methodology and implications of using AI and big data. He has been published in PNAS, AJAE, Food Policy, among others. His research has been funded by the USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).

Vision Statement: Old Themes with New Solutions

In 2021, the founding president of the AAEA China Section, Holly Wang, wrote an article reflecting on a decade of development and contributions by the China Section. Four years later, it remains evident that many issues faced by the China Section at that time still represent key challenges and opportunities today:

1. **Limited dissemination opportunities at AAEA meetings:** In recent years, over 150 submitted abstracts annually competed for limited presentation slots. Recent China Section leaders have made progress in addressing this issue, but there remains room for further improvement.
2. **Trade conflicts between the U.S. and China,** particularly in the agricultural sector, were pressing issues then and have now become even more critical topics for today's scholars.
3. **Publication outlets:** The China Section has been actively collaborating with journals such as the *China Agricultural Economic Review* to streamline the publication of research findings by China Section members.

If elected as President of the China Section—a section I've been a member of since 2016—I propose the following actionable initiatives. These initiatives complement the agendas established by former and current China Section leadership:

First, I will expand China section's exposure at AAEA through organizing AAEA invited sessions and AAEA at ASSA sessions, which I have successfully organized four times with 100 percent acceptance rate. These additional sessions will provide new and more impactful dissemination opportunities for China section members.

Second, I will coordinate with AAEA members in the news to include China section members' analysis on US-China trade relationship, not only scholars from within the US, but also scholars in China and other countries. In this way, we are achieving China section's goal of bridging the information gap between AAEA and China section.

Third, I will collaborate closely with editorial leadership at the China Agricultural Economic Review and other relevant journals to facilitate timely publication of concise and impactful articles by China Section members.

I firmly believe that two years from now, when these actionable initiatives have yielded fruitful results, you will be proud of your decision to support me today. Thank you.