

# AAEA SECTION NEWSLETTER

## *Extension Section*

### PREPARING FOR AAEA 2017!

Greetings! I hope that the new year has started off well for everyone. I am pleased to report that your Extension section has been hard at work following the meetings in Boston. I apologize for the delayed newsletter but it gives me more content for this writing (always the optimist!).

I cannot thank everyone enough for the outstanding track session proposals. The board and I were blown away by the volume and strength of each one. It was a case where we needed more available slots (and we tweaked tradition to open more slots). It was our intention to provide two sessions that have a common theme – the financial stress/condition in production agriculture – and more diversity across the remaining sessions. Second, in order to accommodate the larger than expected pool of proposals we are testing a new model for the outlook session. This year we have this setup in a lightening format with both crops and livestock in a single sitting. The meeting in 2017 will obviously be a test run and we look forward to your feedback. The complete track-session offerings are provided later in this write-up. Once again, thank you everyone who submitted.

Please mark your calendar for the Section tour. We are planning a trip to an indoor, inner-city garden as well as a trip into the country to visit with one of the more prominent and progressive dairies in the region with respect to both production and agri-tourism. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, August 2, 2017 for the tour.

Another item to highlight is the annual meeting luncheon, which will be reverting back to an Extension Section only lunch. We are very pleased to have our very own Dr. Scott Irwin as our keynote. Also, time during the luncheon will be dedicated to feature members/groups for their exceptional media outlets as we re-instate the Outstanding Electronic Media Education Award along with recognition for other award winners. Start planning now to submit others (or yourself) for these Section level awards as the call for nominations will be coming soon (expect a May deadline). A quick thank you to the National Crop Insurance, the Southern Risk Management Education Center, the Center for Farm Financial Management, the Farm Foundation, and FarmDoc for the significant support of these and other Section activities.

Finally, our section is working on a skeleton crew. We are asking for nominations for a number of positions. The currently open positions and positions that will be opening at the next meeting are provided below. Please consider serving or nominate someone.

With that I want to conclude by offering a quick thank you for your patience in receiving this update. I am especially indebted to the board members who have been working diligently, meeting monthly via conference calls, to plan what we believe will be a fantastic 2017 meeting in Chicago. Encourage your fellow Extension colleagues to join the section and participate in the Section led events this summer in Chicago. We will be in touch!

Warmest Regards, John Michael Riley (Extension Section Chair)

## PRELIMINARY TRACK SESSION INFORMATION

Track Section Title	Co-Sponsing Section
1 Risk Management Programs and the Next Farm Bill	ARA
2 Rural entrepreneurship in times of change	CRENET
3 Crop and Livestock Outlook	
4 Current Financial Conditions of Midwestern Farms	
5 Extension's Response to Farm Financial Stress	
6 Washington Policy Update	
7 A Toolbox for Early-Career and Future Extension Educators	GSS
8 Graduate Student Extension Competition Winners	GSS

**Tracks Allocated: 6**

## BOARD LEADERSHIP, OPEN POSITIONS, AND SOON TO BE OPEN POSITIONS

Chair: John Michael Riley, Oklahoma State University

Chair-Elect: *open*

Past Chair: Gregg Ibendahl, Kansas State University

Secretary/Treasurer: Keri Jacobs, Iowa State University (rolling off in Chicago)

Director-at-Large: Jon Beirmacher, Noble Foundation (2015-2018)

Director-at-Large: Laurence Crane, National Crop Insurance Services Inc (2014 – 2017)

1890 Institutions: *open*

Southern Region: Ross Pruitt, University of Tennessee at Martin (2015 – 2018)

Northeast Region: *open*

North Central Region: *open*

Western Region: Shannon Neibergs, Washington State University (2015 – 2018)

Immediate needs are highlighted by the “*open*” insignia. We have secured some nominees but please feel free to throw your name (or a name) in the hat as well. Moving forward, a new chair-elect, treasurer, and at large director will be needed to assume roles in Chicago. Once the nomination process is complete a ballot will be sent to all members. Please submit nominations to me ([john.m.riley@okstate.edu](mailto:john.m.riley@okstate.edu)) by February 15, 2017.

