

AAEA News

Meet AAEA's 2015 Fellows

The [AAEA Fellows Selection Committee](#) has selected six outstanding members to be honored as [AAEA Fellows](#). In this release of *The Exchange*, we will learn about Alan Olmstead and how he is shaping the future of the Association and the field of agricultural and applied economics as a whole.

Click here  #MeetAAEA2015Fellows

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Meet AAEA 2015 Fellow: Alan L. Olmstead

Alan L. Olmstead is Distinguished Research Professor of Economics at UC Davis. He has written extensively on US agricultural development. His 2008 book with Paul W. Rhode, *Creating Abundance: Biological Innovation and American Agricultural Development*, examines three centuries of technological advance in American agriculture. His 2015 book also with Rhode, *Arresting Contagion: Science, Policy, and Conflicts over Animal Disease Control*, tells the unknown story of how visionaries in the USDA created novel institutions for collective action that made the United States a world leader in animal disease control and prevented hundreds of thousands of human deaths from zoonotic diseases by 1940. Olmstead is an Editor-in-Chief of the *Historical Statistics of the United States: Earliest Times to the Present, Millennial Edition*. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Bureau of Economic Research, on the editorial board of the *Journal of Economic History*, and on the Executive Board of the Western Economics Association International. He is a past president of the Economic History Association and the recipient of numerous research awards, including the AAEA Quality of Discovery Award in 2009. In 2011, he was honored as one of twelve inaugural fellows of the Cliometrics Society.

In the next issue of *The Exchange*, you will learn about another 2015 Fellow with a brief biography of achievements in their career. You can also read about them by searching for our hashtag on Facebook and Twitter: #MeetAAEA2015Fellows.

2015 AAEA Fellows:

- **C. Peter Timmer**, Harvard University
- **Jayson Lusk**, Oklahoma State University
- **James MacDonald**, USDA Economic Research Service
- **J. Edward Taylor**, University of California, Davis
- **Ariel Dinar**, University of California, Riverside

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2015 AAEA & WAEA
JOINT ANNUAL MEETING



**Housing and Registration is Open:
2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting**

The majority of the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting activities will take place at the Marriott Marquis San Francisco. Room blocks have been secured at the Marriott Marquis and are quickly being filled. Reserve a room online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/AAEA2015>. To reserve a room by phone, please call (415) 896-1600 and make sure to mention that you are a part of the AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. If you are reserving a room at the government rate, you will need the **passcode: AAEAGOV**. There are a limited number of rooms and they are all on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Marriott Marquis is located in downtown San Francisco. Right outside the hotel there is access to local shopping, restaurants, and other attractions. Inside the Marriott Marquis there is a Starbucks and The Mission Grille for breakfast, and Bin 55 Restaurant & Wine Bar as well as [The View Lounge](#) for dinner options. To find other dining or drink options that are near the hotel, click [here](#) or visit <http://bitly.com/1uUQb3b>.

Registration:

Attendees will have access to concurrent sessions, plenary sessions, the Poster Reception and Welcome Reception on Sunday night, and the Closing Reception on Tuesday night. Tickets for the [luncheon, the banquet](#) and [pre/post conference workshops](#) are not included with the main registration fee, but can be purchased during registration.

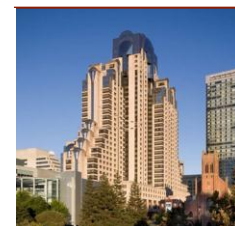
REGISTRATION RATES

Type	Early (Before May 27)	Advanced (May 28- July 9)	On-site (After July 9)
Professional Member	\$395	\$470	\$545
Professional Non-Member	\$545	\$620	\$695
Senior Member*	\$285	\$360	\$435
Senior Non-Member*	\$405	\$480	\$555
Graduate Student Member	\$105	\$140	\$180
Graduate Student Non-Member	\$220	\$255	\$300
Undergraduate Student**	\$20	\$20	\$20
*Senior Member: 65+ years of age and retired			
**Register undergraduate students via telephone by calling (414) 918-3190			

HOUSING

[Marriott Marquis](#)

780 Mission Street
San Francisco,
California 94103



Single/Double Occupancy	\$213
*Additional Occupancy	+\$ 20
Government Rate	\$213

Register Online

PDF

OR Mail PDF to:
AAEA Business Office
555 E. Wells Street, #1100
Milwaukee, WI 53202
OR Fax PDF to:
(414) 276-3349

**Note to Government Employees:
There are a limited number of spaces for ticketed events. To register for a ticketed event before your organization registers you for the Joint Annual Meeting, please call (414) 918-3190 or fill out the [registration form](#) (leave the joint meeting registration portion blank) and fax the form to (414) 276-3349.*

President's Column

April 2015



The AAEA Board has been busy preparing for the upcoming 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco. We have an exciting slate of activities and speakers and the meeting will

certainly provide an excellent forum for the exchange of ideas, the making of new friends, and reunions with old friends, colleagues, and classmates.

The Selected Presentations Committee fielded a very large number of submissions this year. There were 1,294 abstracts submitted for consideration. This is the highest abstract submissions total in recent history and our meeting space unfortunately placed some rather strict constraints on the number of selected presentations that could be put on the program. The committee has done an excellent job in sorting through this large pool of submissions and has chosen 436 selected papers (a 33.7% acceptance rate) and 301 selected posters (a 23.2% acceptance rate) for presentation, which yielded a 56.9% total rate of acceptance. Again, because of space constraints and the record number of submissions, this is considerably below the acceptance rate realized in recent years.

Although it is true in most aspects of our personal and professional lives, we must acclimate ourselves to dealing with rejection from our professional colleagues. As I always stress to my students, who are prone to interpret a rejection as an editorial statement about the quality and value of their ideas, selected presentation rejections reflect many factors and should in no way be interpreted as conveying any specific message regarding the

value of the proposed presentation or the research or pursuit of ideas underlying the proposal. I myself am among the ranks of the rejected this year. Space constraints as well as the need for a diverse and yet coherent program are factors that influence this process. Likewise, in spite of our very best efforts, it is often difficult to evaluate the suitability of a proposal on the basis of a very brief abstract. The more senior cohort of our association will remember the previous process which required submission of a completed paper for consideration. I commend members of the Selected Presentations Committee for the care and wisdom that they put behind this critically important task and for the many hours of dedicated service that this effort requires.

I am quite enthusiastic about the very high degree of interest in participating in the meetings this year. While the numbers may reflect the fact that our meetings are joint with the WAEA as well as the very desirable location, I am also optimistic that this is a positive sign of the strength and stability of our association.

We have an exciting slate of invited speakers this year. AAEA President-elect Jill McCluskey will give the Presidential Address on Monday, July 27 in the morning. The Fellows Address will be given by Dan Sumner on Tuesday, July 28 in the morning, and Professor Anne Case of Princeton will deliver the Galbraith Address on Tuesday afternoon.

One of the many honors granted to the AAEA President is selecting the keynote speaker. In what may be a selfish but very well-intentioned choice, I have the honor of inviting one of my own professors and colleagues to deliver our keynote address Sunday night. Dr. David

Dickey will deliver a much-anticipated address that he has told me will be along the lines of “Unit Roots: Their Greatest Hits.” Dave is one of the most cited econometricians and statisticians in history and is one of the most enjoyable speakers and teachers that I have ever encountered. Dave occupies that rare place where his name is associated with a result that is so standard—the Dickey–Fuller unit root test—that his formal citation list (which is incredible) vastly understates his impact on our daily work. I encourage everyone to attend these special events.

The slate of candidates for new members of the Board of Directors and President has been announced and I encourage everyone to be sure to submit their ballots. Jayson Lusk and Dan Sumner—two outstanding candidates—are on the ballot for 2016–2017 President. Boards of Director Candidates include Allen Featherstone, Ani Katchova, Ashok Mishra, and Gopi Munisamy. Again, we are very fortunate to have such an exceptionally strong field of candidates willing to devote their time to serving the association. The election opens April 15, 2015 and closes May 15, 2015 and prospective voters must be current members as of May 5, 2015 to vote. You can access ballots online through the “My Account” page.

Finally, I want to update everyone as to our efforts to broaden the AAEA Section representation. We are interested in expanding the services of the Association to serve a wider audience. Recall that the name of our association was recently changed to the “Agricultural and Applied Economics Association,” reflecting our desire to serve a broader variety of interests and to focus on providing services to current and potential international members. We are currently working to establish a South Asia Section and an Africa Section. I would ask anyone interested in participating in these sections to contact me or the business office. We have met the requirements needed to charter these sections but we need support and input from others as we get these new sections started. We have successfully formed a North American Branch of the Australian Association Section. I have recently had conversations with Dr. Amir Hossein Chizari of the University of Tehran about establishing more formal linkages with the Iranian Association of Agricultural Economists. We are contemplating possibilities for collaborative activities and would welcome input as to how we might establish and strengthen linkages in the region.

Barry Goodwin
AAEA President

2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting: Abstract Decision

Abstract decision letters were sent on March 20, 2015 to the designated presenter. If you did not receive a notification, please contact AAEA by emailing us at info@aaea.org or (414) 918–3190.

President-Elect Seeks Volunteers for AAEA Committees

Members interested in shaping the future of the AAEA can play an essential role by serving on an association committee. Committee service also offers an excellent opportunity for developing contacts and increasing professional networking.

“I invite all members to get actively involved in AAEA through serving on our committees,” says President-Elect Jill McCluskey. “By serving, you influence the direction and priorities of the AAEA, and help us to best meet the needs of agricultural and applied economists. Your work will shape our AAEA Trust, awards and special lectures, membership, leadership selection, publication, statistics infrastructure, outreach, meeting, and career development activities. For established professionals, we rely on your contributions to guide the AAEA’s work. For early career professionals, working on a committee is a great way to build your professional network and service record. Please email us (see below) with your interest in serving.”

“I invite all members to get actively involved in AAEA through serving on our committees”

-President-Elect Jill McCluskey

McCluskey will make appointments to the following 2015–2016 committees by June 2015:

- AAEA Trust
- Awards
- Case Study Invited Paper
- Economics, Statistics & Information Resources
- Employment Services
- Fellows Selection
- Galbraith Forum and Award
- Membership
- Mentorship
- Nominating
- Selected Presentations

For information about these committees and a list of their current members, please visit <http://www.aea.org/about-aea/aea-committees>.

Any AAEA member interested and willing to serve on a committee should contact Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aea.org or (414) 918-3190 by **April 20, 2015**.



Crop Insurance and the 2014 Farm Bill: Reports and Analyses from the Field

October 5-7, 2015 · Louisville, KY · Marriott Louisville Downtown



2015 Extension Competition for Graduate Students

The Extension and Graduate Student Sections of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association announce a competition for graduate students for 2015. This competition, sponsored jointly by the Extension Section and the Graduate Student Section, provides graduate student competitors the opportunity to develop extension and outreach programs from their research. The development of education materials and presentations suitable for a general public audience is expected.

We encourage all departments with graduate students in agricultural economics, agribusiness, natural resource economics, community resource economics, applied economics or similar programs related to agriculture and/or the food system to inform their students about this important competition.

The purpose of the competition is to provide incentives to graduate students to learn to prepare and present appropriate analytical results for an extension (usually non-economist) audience. This can be based upon the graduate student's research for a thesis or dissertation. Participation in the competition is expected to enhance the professional growth of the participating students regarding extension programs.

Eligible applicants are:

- Graduate students currently engaged in agricultural economics, agribusiness, natural resources, community resource economics, applied or similar economics MS or PhD programs related to agriculture and/or the food system.
- Those who graduated from such programs in 2014 or later.

Note: Participants must identify and work with a mentor with experience in outreach or extension activities.

Applications should be addressed to Maria Marshall and must include:

1. Student's name, university, department, address and contact information.
2. Title of the extension program to be delivered.
3. A summary of the proposed extension program. This should include target audience, delivery plans, communication methods and activities planned for distributing the information to the public such as with fact sheets, pamphlets, press releases, reports, web sites, streaming videos, spreadsheets, workshops, PowerPoint presentations and training activities to be conducted (4 page maximum).
4. A profile of the student applicant's background as well as the related thesis title and brief description of the research (maximum 1 page).
5. The mentor's name, address and description of the mentor's role in assisting the student with this project.

Applications must be submitted [electronically](#) no later than **May 16, 2015**.

Finalists will be selected to make an extension/outreach presentation at the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, on Sunday, July 26, to a panel of judges. Selection of the finalists will be based on the material submitted and the criteria listed below.

Criteria for judging the finalist and winners will include:

1. Identification of a target audience.
 - a. An explanation of the issue/problem/opportunity being addressed
 - b. An explanation on how this target audience was identified
2. Development of an extension program for the target audience that includes:
 - a. An outline of the goals of the extension program
 - b. A summary and an explanation of the main elements of the thesis or dissertation results to be included in the extension program. Include a description of how the research results will address the issue/problem/opportunity and benefit the target audience.
 - c. A summary of the program in an extension report, or extension PowerPoint presentation, or other appropriate extension communication media that the audience can take home. This summary should be an explanation that would be effective in accomplishing the extension goals as identified in step 2a above.
3. An explanation of extension team development and responsibilities in terms of program development and delivery should be addressed, if appropriate.
4. Plans for evaluating the effectiveness of the extension program.

Each finalist must develop oral and visual presentations (15–20 minutes in length) for delivery at the 2015 Joint Annual Meeting. The top three finalists are expected to make presentations during an AAEA Extension track organized symposium.

Awards

Cash awards will be given to those judged to be the top three graduate students in this competition. Award funding is provided by the Farm Foundation and the AAES Extension Section. Awards are:

- First Place: \$1,000 and a plaque
- Second Place: \$300 and a certificate
- Third Place: \$200 and a certificate
- Other finalists receive finalist certificates

The top 3 competitors selected will be recognized at the AAEA Awards ceremony and the winner will receive a plaque at the awards ceremony. All finalists are guests at the Extension Luncheon during the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting. Luncheon tickets will be provided to all finalists.

Submit Entries to:

Dr. Maria Marshall

Competition Committee Chair

Agriculture Economics Department

Purdue University

Phone: (765) 494-4268

Email: mimarsha@purdue.edu



Call for Applications:

Travel Grants for Early Career Professionals and Graduate Students

The AAEA Trust seeks applications for Early Career Professional and Graduate Student Travel Grants. These grants defray housing and transportation costs associated with attending the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA on July 26-28. Up to \$400 will be awarded to each applicant, based on professional merit, financial need, and expected active participation in the Joint Annual Meeting.

A qualifying applicant must be a graduate student or comparatively new junior professional (within three years of award of your last degree) engaged at an accredited U.S. college, university, or other institution in such applied economics fields as agribusiness, agricultural, consumer, food, development, environmental, health, marketing, regional, rural, or resource economics. Reflecting the Trust's goal of broadening participation in the Joint Annual Meeting, preference may be given to individuals working under institutional circumstances not normally conducive to AAEA meeting attendance.

Applications must be submitted through the [online application form](#) and logging into your AAEA account. You will be asked to submit the following:

1. Your name, postal address, e-mail address, and phone number
2. Your current status, including: early

career professional or graduate student; department and institution at which enrolled or employed; degree program underway or recently completed; years at institution; brief summary of research area; and professional rank or anticipated graduation date

3. Description of your interest and/or planned participation in the Joint Annual Meeting
4. Proposed travel budget, including other funding sources available, such as from your institution
5. A nomination from a department, division head, or supervisor which includes written acknowledgement of the nomination and certification of your financial need, including certification that funding is unavailable from other sources.

Applications should be submitted by the individual seeking support; however, only one application from each department or division will be considered. In the event that more than one application is submitted from a specific department or division, it will be up to the department head to decide which will be considered. Applications will be accepted only from U.S. colleges, universities, and institutions. **The deadline for submission is April 9, 2015.**



JOIN AAEA AT THE
**2016 ASSA Annual
Conference**
in San Francisco!
January 3-5

****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.

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, all presenters at the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting need to be a 2015 AAEA or WAEA member.



Call for Selected Poster Reviewers

Improve the learning experience at the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) and volunteer to be a Poster Reviewer.

For the 2014 Annual Meeting, AAEA made efforts to increase the opportunities for poster presenters to interact with meeting attendees. These efforts included the Sunday night Poster Reception and dedicated poster

sessions on Monday and Tuesday over the lunch period.

Poster presenters will have another new opportunity to receive feedback on their research at the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#). Each Selected Poster will be assigned a Poster Reviewer who will meet with the presenting author at a time during the meeting to

discuss the poster. Poster Reviewers will be asked to look over the poster ahead of time in order to provide the poster author feedback. To volunteer to be a Poster Reviewer, or for more information, please contact the AAEA Business Office at info@aaea.org or (414) 918-3190.

Call for Participation:**2015 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association AEM/ Graduate Student Section Case Study Competition**

The AEM/Graduate Student Section Case Study Competition allows graduate students to test their communication skills and their ability to apply their knowledge of agricultural economics and agribusiness subjects to practical situations. Students competing in the competition will receive a copy of the case study at least two weeks in advance of the AAEA annual meetings.

Each team should prepare an oral summary of their solution to the case that will last no more than 15 minutes. Presentations lasting over 15 minutes will be penalized. After the presentation, teams should be prepared to answer questions from the judges on their interpretation of the case.

Teams can be comprised of up to three graduate students. Students may either compete as a team from the same school, or may choose to be mixed with students from other schools. If there is only one student from a school that wants to participate, the student can compete on their own, or he/she can be matched with other students. In the case of teams that are matched with individuals from different universities, competitors will be notified of their teammates as soon as possible, but no later than the same day the case is announced.

First Place:	\$300
Second Place:	\$200
Third Place:	\$100

The number of rounds will be determined by the number of teams entered. The final round will be composed of the top 3 teams. In

addition to plaques and cash prizes, the three finalist teams will also be recognized during the AAEA Awards Ceremony.

Sunday, July 26, 8 AM–3 PM:

First Rounds of Competition

Monday, July 27, 1:30 PM–4 PM:

Final Round

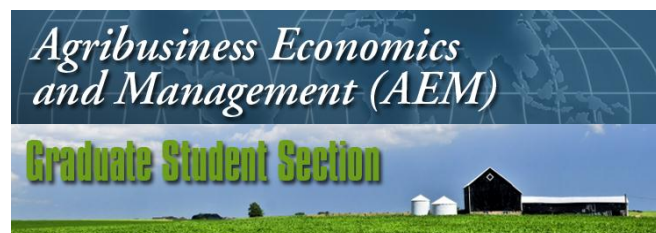
Monday, July 27, 6:30 PM–7:30 PM:

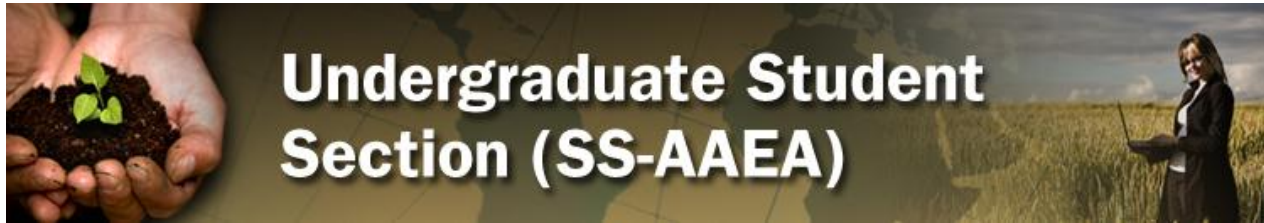
Awards Ceremony

Students participating in the case study competition will need to be registered for the Joint Annual Meeting and the Case Study Competition.

1. Students should register for the 2015 Joint Annual Meeting through the 2015 Annual Meeting Registration Form which is available online at <http://www.aaea.org/meetings/annual-meeting/2015-aaea--waea-joint-annual-meeting-new/registration>.
2. Each team must also complete the Case Study registration form identifying their teammates and send it to AAEA no later than **June 15, 2015**.

Please direct any questions regarding the 2015 AAEA Case Study Competition to Dr. Brent Ross (rross@msu.edu) or GSS Section Chair, Josh Maples (josh.maples@okstate.edu).





Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition

The [Undergraduate Student Section of the AAEA \(SS-AAEA\)](#) would like to announce the new Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition. It will debut at the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco. The purpose of the new competition is to provide a forum for undergraduate students to showcase their ability to address real world problems in agricultural and applied economics using a spreadsheet, as well as celebrate their success as experiential learners.

We thank Dr. Julie Caswell, the other members of the [AAEA Trust Committee](#), and the [AAEA Executive Board](#) for their gracious support of this new experiential learning initiative through their AAEA Trust Grant program. Consequently, the award structure will be:

- 1st place – \$400 to the student, a plaque, and recognition during the SS-AAEA Business Meeting
- 2nd place – \$200 to the student
- 3rd place – \$100 to the student

In the past, the Paper Competition was the only competition of the SS-AAEA to address undergraduate student research. With this second competition offering, we can now segment that market much better. The following highlights some major differences between the two research competitions:

The EOHDS Spreadsheet Competition

- Using sound economic principles as operationalized with a spreadsheet, students will solve a real world problem important to agricultural and applied economists.
- One student per project.
- Students submit a spreadsheet and a poster for evaluation.
- Students make a 5-minute presentation at the Joint Annual Meeting.

The Paper Competition

- Historically, students have done a literature review, collected data on an economic phenomenon, and tested hypotheses. The papers resemble a shorter version of a senior thesis.
- One student per paper.
- Students submit a paper for evaluation.
- Students make a 12-minute presentation at the Joint Annual Meeting.

Please visit <http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/aaea-annual-meeting> to access the new EOHDS Spreadsheet Competition Guidelines and forms. If further clarification is needed, please contact Steven Vickner at (614) 551-1916 or steven_vickner@wilmington.edu.

Other News



The Waterloo Research Institute in Insurance, Securities and Quantitative Finance (WatRISQ), University of Waterloo, is pleased to invite you to the 4th International Agricultural Risk, Finance, and Insurance Conference (IARFIC), June 7-9, 2015, in Washington, DC. IARFIC is a non-profit international conference that brings together academia, government, private sector, producer groups, NGOs, and other stakeholders, to discuss critical Issues, global perspectives, best practices, and innovations within the field. The past three conferences were a tremendous success, held in 2012-Beijing, China, 2013-Vancouver, Canada, and 2014-Zurich, Switzerland, with select best papers published in special issues of *Agricultural Finance Review* by Emerald Group Publishing.

Please join us for a unique reception at the House Committee on Agriculture, Longworth House Office Building. All other conference activities will be hosted at the [Park Hyatt Washington](#), including the keynote addresses, plenary sessions, research presentations, and gala dinner.

IARFIC is co-hosted by the China Institute for Actuarial Science, China, the Central University of Finance and Economics, China, the Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies at the University of Manitoba, Canada, and the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, USA.

The Fourth International Agricultural Risk, Finance, and Insurance Conference

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- **Joe Glauber**, PhD, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and former Chief Economist, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), USA
- **Brandon Willis**, Administrator, Risk Management Agency (RMA) in the USDA's Farm and Foreign Agriculture Services, USA
- **Mary Frances Miller**, FCAS, MAAA, FCA, Hon FIA, CPCU, AIM, Founder and Senior Consulting Actuary, Select Actuarial Services, USA
- **Bruce Sherrick**, Professor and Director, TIAA-CREF Centre for Farmland Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
- **Joshua Woodard**, Assistant Professor and Zaitz Family Sesquicentennial Faculty Fellow in Agricultural Finance and Business, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, USA

PLENARY SESSION TOPICS

1. *Big Data: technical and policy challenges.* Moderated by: **Barry Barnett**, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University, USA.
2. *Improving agricultural insurance ratemaking: underlying assumptions regarding market volatility, price/yield relationships, etc.* Moderated by: **Calum Turvey**, WI Myers Professor of Agricultural Finance, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, USA.
3. *China: update and innovations.* Moderated by: **Qiao Zhang**, Professor, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China.

4. *Agricultural insurance and the way forward: long-term sustainability of agricultural insurance programs, including a discussion on program design, role of government, and subsidy.*
Moderated by: **G. Cornelis van Kooten**, Professor of Economics and Canada Research Chair in Environmental Studies, University of Victoria, Canada.

PROGRAMME

Sunday, June 7, 2015: Registration (4-6PM), and Reception (7-9PM)
Monday, June 8, 2015: Conference (7AM-9

PM), and Gala Dinner (6:30-10 PM)
Tuesday, June 9, 2015: Conference (7AM-5 PM)

REGISTRATION (www.iafirc.org)

Regular registration fee: \$895 USD*
Academic and student registration fee: \$395 USD*

*Note: Add \$100 USD to registration fee after April 1, 2015. Registration fee will be charged in CAD using an approximate exchange rate of 1.20.

Global Soil Security Symposium

GlobalSoilSecurity.tamu.edu

May 19 to 21, 2015

The Global Soil Security concept is an opportunity to develop and promote the importance of soil

science beyond our discipline. We invite you to the Global Soil Security Symposium to contribute your expertise and experience to further define the Soil Security concept.



On behalf of the organizers, you are invited to the “Global Soil Security Symposium” being hosted at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX on May 19–21 2015

<https://www.soils.org/meetings/global-soil-security>. Registration and abstract submission is open.

The conference organizers are Cristine Morgan (Texas A&M University), Andrea Koch (US Study Centre in Sydney) and Alex McBratney and Damien Field (University of Sydney). As well, the Borlaug Institute is co-sponsoring and helping us to develop a sound background and framework for the policy component. (other sponsors include Noble Foundation, United States Dept of Agriculture NRCS; Soil Science Society of America, International Union of Soil Scientists, Texas A&M Agrilife Research, and OECD’s Co-operative Research Programme on Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems)

There will be experts and innovative thinkers from a range of disciplines including agricultural and resource economics, (rural) sociology, information technology, soil science, and agronomy to further develop the concept of soil security, and to work toward assessment and implementation strategies. There is expected to be about 150 participants including representative of US and Australian government. There will be a three-day discussion to address the five dimensions of soil security, which are the following:

1. Capability--the intrinsic capacity of a soil to produce products and ecosystem services;
2. Condition--the current state of the soil as modified by human activities;
3. Capital--economics of soil services to Health, Environment and Food production;
4. Connectivity--the social connection of soil managers and custodians and users of soil products and services to the soil (and to each other); and
5. Codification – Policy frameworks to secure soil.

To submit your abstract or learn more just go to <https://www.soils.org/meetings/global-soil-security>.

**Call for Applications:
2015 Food Distribution Research Society
Scholarship Award**

The Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) is pleased to accept applications for the 2015 Undergraduate Student Research Paper Competition in the area of food distribution and marketing. Broadly defined, this area encompasses all economic functions that occur between the farm gate and final consumer. This new and exciting opportunity, sponsored by the Food Distribution Research Society, is open to all undergraduate students with scholarly interest and career aspirations in the food distribution system.

- Cash stipend of \$500 for the best Undergraduate Student Research Paper
- Complementary student membership to FDRS
- Complementary conference registration fees and recognition at the 2015 FDRS Annual Conference scheduled for October 9–14, 2015 in Philadelphia, PA. The recipients' domestic travel expenses will also be paid by the society

Application Steps

1. Submit the Statement of Intent form electronically at ac2479@msstate.edu by



April 15th, 2015. This form is available for download at: www.fdrsinc.org. This step is optional but strongly encouraged, as it will help us plan the review process.

2. Write the research paper using the formatting guidelines provided at www.fdrsinc.org by **May 30th, 2015**
3. Submit the following electronically at ac2479@msstate.edu
 - a. A brief synopsis of academic training, career interests, career goals and objectives, and a description of any food industry experience and/or research experience
 - b. Name, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail of the applicant
 - c. A copy of the complete research paper in Microsoft Word (*.doc, *.docx) or other compatible format

For more information please visit the FDRS website at: www.fdrsinc.org or contact FDRS's Vice President for Education: Dr. Alba Collart at ac2479@msstate.edu

AAEA Events & Deadlines

- [April 20, 2015 – Volunteers for AAEA Committees](#)
- [May 27, 2015 – 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting: Early Registration Deadline](#)
- [June 9, 2015 – The Fourth International Agricultural Risk, Finance, and Insurance Conference \(IARFIC\)](#)
- [July 9, 2015 – 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting: Advance Registration Deadline](#)

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



The Exchange Volume 37, Issue 7
April 2015

The Exchange is published biweekly by the
Agricultural & Applied Economics
Association.

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