



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 **C. Peter Timmer** and how he is shaping the future of the Association and the field of agricultural and applied economics as a whole.

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#MeetAAEA2015Fellows

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Meet AAEA 2015 Fellow: C. Peter Timmer



C. Peter Timmer is an authority on agricultural development, food security, and the world rice economy who has published scores of papers and books on these topics. He has served as a professor at Stanford, Cornell, three faculties at Harvard, and the University of California, San Diego, where he was also the dean of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies. Timmer is now the Cabot Professor of Development Studies, *emeritus*, at Harvard University.

A core advisor on the World Bank's *World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development*, Timmer is a non-resident fellow at the Center for Global Development. He was awarded the Leontief Prize in 2012 for advances in economic thought and delivered the 18th Annual UNU-WIDER Lecture at the UN in New York in 2014.

Timmer's research and advisory work focuses on three main themes: lessons from the historical experience of structural transformation in Europe and Asia for the role of agriculture in currently developing countries; the impact of modern food supply chains on smallholder farmers and poor consumers; and approaches to stabilizing rice prices in Asia with minimum spillover to the world market and to producers and consumers in Africa and Latin America.

You can read about all of the 2015 AAEA Fellows by searching for our hashtag on Facebook and Twitter: #MeetAAEA2015Fellows.

2015 AAEA Fellows:

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

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Call for submissions: 2016 ASSA Annual Meeting

President-Elect Jill McCluskey is soliciting proposals and suggestions for AAEA invited paper sessions at the 2016 Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, January, 3-5, 2016.

Preference will be given to those proposals that add to knowledge on public issues of national and international importance or expand capabilities and tools for economic research.

The objective of AAEA sessions at the ASSA Annual Meeting is to share new knowledge with members of other economics associations as well as with AAEA members. Sessions may be jointly sponsored with other ASSA member associations. AAEA encourages sessions that will draw widely from ASSA attendees. Therefore, preference will be given to proposals that jointly serve the interests of the AAEA and other economists more broadly.

Papers in these Invited Paper sessions will be considered for publication in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*

in August 2016. Preference will be given to proposals that reflect a commitment to furnish a high-quality collection of papers suitable for publication. Papers will go through a review process, and it is not guaranteed that all papers in an accepted session will be published. Papers submitted for review should be in their publish-ready state because there will not be time for multiple versions and reviews. Discussant comments will not be published. Authors will be contacted by the *AJAE* editors regarding style and length of manuscripts to be submitted to the editors for publication consideration.

Proposed session formats with three papers and one discussant or four papers without a discussant are permitted. Proposals for sessions without a discussant must include a clear plan for ensuring and fostering participant interaction. Please note that sessions at ASSA are two hours in length.

Proposals will be reviewed and selected by a subcommittee of

the AAEA Board.

Proposals should be submitted to Kristen Wright at kwright@aaea.org. They should include the proposed session title and paper titles, as well as the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of the session organizer, moderator, paper presenters, and discussants. A brief (approximately two pages) justification of the session, and one paragraph abstract describing the objective of, and new knowledge generated by, each paper, should also be included. It is the responsibility of the organizer to ensure that all individuals identified in the proposal are willing to participate.

All presenters/speakers/discussants must be members of AAEA. A membership waiver request can be included in the proposal in the case of extenuating circumstances. In addition, participants need to register for the ASSA meeting. AAEA cannot grant registration waivers for the meeting.

Please send proposals by **May 1, 2015**, in Word or PDF format to Kristen Wright at kwright@aaea.org.



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

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: AAEGOV**. 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>.



HOUSING
[Marriott Marquis](#)
780 Mission Street
San Francisco,
California 94103

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

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			

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.*



2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting Post-Conference Workshop

*Workshop Stipends for Graduate Students and Young Professionals
Applying Behavioral and Experimental Economics to Food and Agri-
Environmental Issues*

Wednesday, July 29, at 9 AM to 4 PM, Marriott Marquis, San Francisco, CA

This workshop brings together world-renowned experts and new researchers to engage in lively presentations and discussions of how behavioral and experimental economics can explain the impact of economic behavior on food choice and landowner participation in agri-environmental programs.

We will provide selected graduate students and young professionals with **scholarships that cover the registration fee and provide a stipend to cover the accommodation cost.**

To apply for the workshop stipends, please submit one paragraph (no more than 200 words) explaining why you should be considered for the waiver to Carola Grebitus (carola.grebitus@asu.edu). We will give priority to those who are applying to participate in the mini-mentor meeting.

Five reasons why graduate students and young professionals should attend this workshop:

- 1) Insightful presentations:** Our workshop will host presentations by Michele Belot, University of Edinburgh; Paul Ferraro, Johns Hopkins University; Andrew Hanks, The Ohio State University; David Just, Cornell University; and Collin Payne, New Mexico State University.
- 2) Mini-mentor meeting:** Discuss your research ideas in an informal setting at lunch with experienced researchers. We will develop small groups based on commonalities in research areas and/or research methodologies (i.e., lab experiments, field experiments, randomized controlled trials). Mentors with experience in the respective fields will provide constructive criticism regarding the experimental designs to these small groups.
- 3) Networking:** Interact with the other participants to exchange ideas, and get feedback.
- 4) Certificate:** You will obtain a certificate of completion at the end of the workshop.
- 5) Future presentation:** We will choose four promising research designs by graduate students/young professionals to be featured in a FSN track session at the 2016 AAEA meetings.

To apply:

Submit an extended abstract (2 pages max; Times New Roman 12pt, 1.5 line spacing) including:

- ✓ Three key words that describe your research
- ✓ Two or three research questions you hope to answer with the research
- ✓ A description of your recruitment strategy
- ✓ Basic experimental instructions (if available and applicable)

Please send your 2-page abstract with the subject line "CfP AAEA Post-Conference Workshop" to Carola.Grebitus@asu.edu

Accepted submissions will be notified by May 30, 2015.

For participation in the Mini-Mentor meetings, please submit by May 15, 2015

Visit the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting workshop page \(http://bit.ly/1Oxxluk\)](http://bit.ly/1Oxxluk) for information on all of the 2015 Pre/Post Conference Workshops.

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.

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.

Applications must be submitted [electronically](#) no later than **May 16, 2015** to Dr. Maria Marshall, Competition Committee Chair, Agriculture Economics Department, Purdue University by calling (765) 494-4268 or email mimarsha@purdue.edu.



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

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

Extension Tour: Sonoma County Wine, Apple Cider, and Olive Oil

We will depart from the Marriott Marquis Hotel at 7:00 AM. The tour of Sonoma County will begin in Sebastopol. Devoto Gardens is a 20-acre diversified family farm that was founded in 1976 by Susan and Stan Devoto. The farm started out as one of the North Bay's original micro-green growers, and slowly evolved in biodiversity. Together with their three daughters, the family grows over 50 varieties of [heirloom apples](#), [specialty cut flowers](#), and [pinot noir grapes](#). The tour of the farm will be followed by a tasting of their hard apple ciders.



The second stop will be in Geyserville where we will meet with one wine-grape grower to talk about farming practices, wine production, marketing strategies, and key challenges. Also, the Sonoma County Cooperative Extension viticulture advisor will provide an overview of the county's vineyard industry and answer questions. The discussion will continue over wine and a box lunch.

The final stop is McEvoy Ranch in Petaluma beginning with a walk in the orchards and vineyards. This



introduction to McEvoy Ranch provides an overview of its history, its commitment to environmental responsibility, its wine program and how they produce award-winning olive oil. We'll walk in the orchards and vineyards where we will talk about the horticulture of their plantings. Next, we'll visit their state-of-the-art mill for an explanation of their unique process of extracting oil. To finish the tour, they will lead us through an oil tasting and sensory evaluation. Following the tour, we will enjoy a wine tasting featuring McEvoy Ranch's current releases. Their retail shop will be open at the end of your visit to purchase olive oil, wine, body care or other estate-produced and artisanal gift items.



The tour includes walking some distance around the properties. Comfortable shoes will provide stability on uneven/gravel surfaces. The weather will be hot or very hot. Please bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and a water bottle.

SCHEDULE

- 7:00 AM Departure
Marriott Marquis
- Stop 1:
8:45 AM Arrival
10:00 AM Departure
Devoto Gardens and Orchard
- Stop 2:
10:45 AM Arrival
12:30 PM Departure
Geyserville
- Stop 3:
1:30 PM Arrival
4:00 PM Departure
McEvoy Ranch
- 5:30 PM Arrival
Marriott Marquis

The deadline to register for the Extension Tour is June 25, 2015. You can register for a ticketed event while registering for the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco:
<http://www.aaea.org/meetings/annual-meeting/2015-aaea--waea-joint-annual-meeting-new/registration>

International Section: Announcement of Track Sessions

The AAEA [International Section](#), the largest of the Association's sections, will sponsor 10 distinct sessions at the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco. We are grateful to our co-sponsor Sections and Committees for making it possible to put together the largest track session offering in our Section's history, despite the triennial international conference two weeks later in Italy. Come join us and hear the exciting research being presented by a wide range of scholars.

The track sessions include sessions on (organizers and their affiliations in parentheses):

- 1) "Making agricultural research matter to women farmers" (Corrine Valdivia, Missouri), co-sponsored with the Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE).
- 2) "Food Security in an Imperfect World: Method, Causes and Remedies" (Ashok Mishra, LSU), co-sponsored with the Applied Risk Analysis section.
- 3) "Reexamining Agricultural Commercialization in the Developing World: The Cash versus Food Production Tradeoff" (Ben Wood, 3ie), co-sponsored with the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE).
- 4) "Guiding Investments in Sustainable Agricultural Intensification in Sub-Saharan Africa" (Melinda Smale, Michigan State), co-sponsored with the Committee on the Opportunity and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE).
- 5) "Economics of Food Losses and Waste: What are the right questions?" (Willi Meyers, Missouri),

co-sponsored with the Agribusiness Economics and Management section.

- 6) "Emerging Development Issues in Rural China: Land titling, agricultural subsidy, distance education and non-farm employment" (Songqing Jin, Michigan State), co-sponsored with the China section.
- 7) "Agriculture in Africa: Telling Facts from Myths" (Luc Christiaensen, World Bank), co-sponsored with the China section.
- 8) "The Role of the Developing and Emerging Countries in Shaping the Future of the Global Trade System" (Tim Josling, Stanford), co-sponsored with the Senior section.
- 9) "Soil Tests & Smallholder Farmers: How potent a productive input is soil fertility information?" (Travis Lybbert, UC-Davis).
- 10) "Ebola: Predicting it, Addressing it, and Food Security Impacts" (George Norton, Virginia Tech).

The Section is also sponsoring a pre-conference, Saturday, July 25, on "Rapid AgriFood System Transformation, Globalization, and International Development", organized by Tom Reardon (Michigan State), Bart Minten (IFPRI), David Zilberman (UC-Berkeley) and Jo Swinnen (KU Leuven). The preconference will take stock of the emerging literature on food system transformation in developing countries, partly in response to globalization and urbanization over the past 20 years.

Please come join us, contribute to what promise to be stimulating discussions, hear cutting-edge research presentations, renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

- 1) Gopi Munisamy and Chris Barrett,
International Section Chair and Chair-Elect



International Section Track Session: *Economics of Food Losses and Waste: What are the right questions?*

The International Section track sessions and is scheduled for Monday, July 27, 2015 from 2:45 PM – 4:15 PM in Sierra I. Come to hear presentations by **Steve Sonka** on “Reducing Postharvest Loss: Are We Asking the Right Questions?”, **Harry de Gorter** on

“Economics of Food Losses and Waste: Concepts and Practical Implications,” **David Just** on “The Role of “Nudge” Type Policies in Reducing Food Waste: A Behavioral Economics Approach,” and discussions by **Tom Johnson** and **Nadia**

Streletskaya. Waste and loss have been widely discussed but not deeply analyzed. This session will provide an opportunity to explore these issues more extensively and stimulate ideas for further research.

****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 expired on April 1, 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.



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.

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 meeting.

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](http://bit.ly/1FG6g1H) (<http://bit.ly/1FG6g1H>).

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–7:45 PM:

AAEA Awards and Fellows Recognition 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).



Call for Judges: SS-AAEA Academic Bowl

I am seeking volunteers to judge the SS-AAEA Academic Bowl at the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco, CA. Our competition will run from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Monday, July 27. Our highest demand for judges takes place early in the day when we are operating three rooms for the competition. Please email Tyler.Mark@uky.edu if you are able to judge and also list your time preferences/availability in the following time slots:



- 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM
- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM
- 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

If your university is also bringing a team or two to compete, please let me know how many students you intend to bring.

Many thanks for your help in making this a great experience for all the student competitors! Please contact me at Tyler.Mark@uky.edu if you have any questions.

Best regards,
Tyler B. Mark
SS-AAEA, Junior Advisor

Undergraduate Student Section Activities Announcement

On behalf of the Undergraduate Student Section of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, we cordially invite you and your students to attend and participate in the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco](#) (July 26–28). Our section offers a wide variety of professional development opportunities for undergraduate students of agricultural and applied economics:

- [Academic Bowl Competition](#)
- [Student Paper Competition](#)
- [Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet Competition](#)
- [Outstanding Chapter Competition](#)
- [Creative Club Competition](#)

In addition to the aforementioned competitions, students can interact with representatives of major graduate programs in our profession to discuss MS and PhD programs. Our reception on Sunday night (July 26) is a great opportunity for your students to meet and forge lifelong friendships with other students from over 20 domestic and several Canadian universities. On Monday night, immediately following the final round of the Academic Bowl Competition, we recognize and celebrate student accomplishments at the Awards Ceremony. Additionally on Monday night, in our section's business meeting students have the opportunity to run for elected student leadership positions within our section.

To encourage participation, the student registration fees have been discounted this year from \$50 to \$20 per student. As a further incentive to participate, there is a total of \$1,800 in prize money, various award plaques, and of course bragging rights to be national champions in a given competition. All of the required registration forms, competition rules, and overview of the

Undergraduate Student Section may be found at <http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/>. If you have any questions, please contact me at steven_vickner@wilmington.edu.

Sincerely,
Dr. Steven S. Vickner
Associate Professor
Wilmington College

Register for the 2015 Employment Center

Registration is now open for the 2015 Employment Center taking place July 26-28, during the [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#) in San Francisco, CA. The Employment Center offers a great opportunity for highly qualified candidates to connect with a number of employers during

the Joint Annual Meeting. This year's Employment Center features a simplified registration and posting process that is integrated into the [AAEA Job Board](#). Applicant registration is **FREE**.

For more information, please visit the online [Employment](#)

2015 AAEA & WAEA JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 26-28, 2015 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

[Center](#). If you have any questions please feel free to contact [Sarah Kenner](#). We hope to see you in San Francisco!

Agricultural Finance and Management (AFM) Section Track Sessions:

The AAEA Agricultural Finance and Management (AFM) Section will sponsor two track sessions at the joint AAEA and WAEA meetings this July in San Francisco. The AFM section focuses research efforts on topics related to agricultural and applied finance, credit markets and financial institutions, farm and agribusiness management, financial performance and investment strategies, international and micro finances, land economics, price analysis and forecasting and risk management. The AFM section encourages you to join us for our two track sessions to learn more about current issues in Cooperative Finance and Lending in Volatile Times.

The track sessions are the following:

1. **“Current Issues in Cooperative Finance”** organized by Brian Briggeman (Kansas State University) with Keri Jacobs (Iowa State University), Phil Kenkel (Oklahoma State University), and Gregory McKee (North Dakota State University) as participants.
2. **“Lending in Volatile Times”** organized by Ryan Larsen (North Dakota State University) with Nathan Kauffman (Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank), Todd Kuethe (University of Illinois), Frayne Olson (North Dakota State University), Lee Shulz (Iowa State University), Christopher Wolf (Michigan State University), and Joleen Hadrich (Colorado State University) as participants.



We look forward to thought-provoking discussions and interactions within these track sessions in July.

Other News



The Fourth International Agricultural Risk, Finance, and Insurance Conference

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.

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.

REGISTRATION (www.iarfic.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.

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)

AJAE Virtual Issue

In this virtual edition of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* we highlight the long and rich tradition on research and policy discussions related to rural community development in *AJAE*. This was an undertaking of the Community and Regional Economics Network (CRENET) within the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. In addition to a celebration of this long and rich tradition we had three objectives in organizing this virtual issue. First, we wanted to highlight some of the classic pieces in rural development that remain relevant today. Reviewing these older classics helps us to better understand not only the foundations of our work today but also highlights how our thinking has evolved over time. Second, we aimed to emphasize the importance of direct policy relevance to the work. While some of the pieces included here could be considered “theoretical” most of the work attempts to inform policy discussions at the federal, state and local levels. Third, over time the complexity of rural community development becomes clearer. Notions that a healthy farm economy lead to a healthy rural economy gave way to a better understanding of the heterogeneity of rural areas. Given this heterogeneity some questioned what role federal policy could or should play and if policy be aimed at nurturing grassroots efforts. As the complexity of rural community development became clearer the nature of the work equally evolved over time.



Steven C. Deller, *AJAE* Editor

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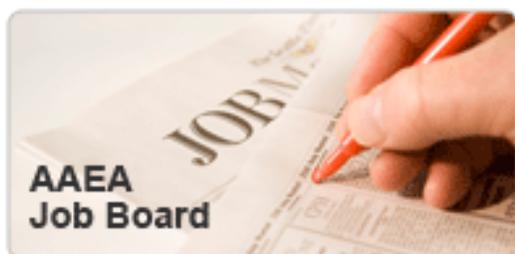
AAEA Events & Deadlines

- [May 16, 2015 – 2015 Extension Competition for Graduate Students](#)
- [May 27, 2015 – 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting: Early Registration Deadline](#)
- [June 7, 2015 – The Fourth International Agricultural Risk, Finance, and Insurance Conference \(IARFIC\)](#)
- [June 15, 2015 – Call for Participation: 2015 AAEA – AEM/ Graduate Student Section Case Study Competition](#)
- [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



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