Thank you to everyone who submitted a selected presentation for the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco. There were a total of 1,295 abstracts submitted which is the highest number of submissions in recent history. For your comparison, here are the previous numbers of submissions for the past meetings.

**Historical Abstract Submissions**
- 2014 (Minneapolis): 893
- 2013 (DC): 1228
- 2012 (Seattle): 936
- 2011 (Pittsburgh): 789
- 2010 (Denver): 923

The AAEA Selected Presentations Committee along with the Topic Leaders and Reviewers, now begins the difficult task of reviewing and organizing these many submissions into the sessions that will be presented this summer. Notifications regarding the acceptance of abstracts will be sent out in late-March, so keep an eye on your inboxes.

Thanks again for your interest in participating in the 2015 Joint Annual Meeting, and we look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!
Call for Award Nominations: 2015 AAEA Annual Awards

The awards program of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association recognizes and enhances professional excellence in agricultural and applied economics. Students, early career professionals, and experienced members are selected on the basis of their achievements in research, teaching and extension activities.

Winners are recognized at the AAEA Annual Meeting during the AAEA Awards and Fellows Ceremony. All 2015 AAEA Annual Award nominations are due by February 9, 2015. Please see the calls below for instructions on how to submit an award nomination.

- Bruce Gardner Memorial Prize for Applied Policy Analysis Award
- Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Awards
- Distinguished Teaching Awards
- Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award
- Outstanding Master’s Thesis Awards
- Publication of Enduring Quality Award
- Quality of Communication Award
- Quality of Research Discovery Award

Questions? Please contact the AAEA Business Office at info@aaea.org or at (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.
**Renew Your AAEA Membership for 2015**

You can now renew your AAEA membership for 2015 on the AAEA website ([http://www.aaea.org/membership/](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.

Alternatively, if you prefer to renew using the paper form, be sure to keep an eye on your mailbox as paper forms will be sent out soon.

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.

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**Thank you for your attendance!**

The 2015 Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) Annual Meeting took place on January 3–5 in Boston. Over the course of the meeting, AAEA presented six invited paper sessions as well as the T.W. Schultz Memorial Lecture, featuring Emily Oster. AAEA would like to congratulate and thank all members who participated in these sessions for making them a success. A special thank you to Emily for her lecture and for visiting with attendees during the reception that followed. We hope everyone who attended had a positive experience, and we look forward to organizing sessions for next year’s ASSA meeting in San Francisco, January 3–5, 2016.
The Institutional and Behavioral Economics Section (IBES) of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) is seeking submissions for the annual IBES Student Paper Competition. Awards will be presented during the IBES Section business meeting at the 2015 AAEA and WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

What will the winners receive?

- First place receives a $500 award.
- Second place receives a $300 award.
- Third place receives a $200 award.

What are the paper requirements?

- The topic of the paper must assess or develop theoretical aspects of institutional and/or behavioral economics.
- Papers may be empirical or qualitative.
- Literature reviews will also be accepted.
- Papers must be authored by a student (graduate or undergraduate) or students. If the student is a co-author with a faculty member, the student must be the lead author.
- If you are uncertain about whether a paper you are considering submitting meets the above requirements, contact Dr. Trent Smith at trent.smith@otago.ac.nz; phone: +64 3 479 4596.

What are the paper elements?

- The maximum page limit is 30 pages (including references and tables)
- Paper title
- Full name(s)
- Student(s) status: graduate or undergraduate
- E-mail address
- Full postal address
- The name and e-mail address of the faculty member or other academic supervisor who has been asked to verify eligibility
The Exchange

- A brief abstract that clearly articulates the institutional and/or behavioral economics issue(s) addressed by the paper
- References using a standard format for applied economics
- Paper must be in PDF format

What are the key dates?

- Papers are due January 31, 2015.
- Winners will be notified by May 15, 2015.
- IBES business meeting to take place during the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting (July 26–28, 2015).

Where do I send my paper?

Submit your paper as a PDF attached to an e-mail to: trent.smith@otago.ac.nz
Dr. Trenton G. Smith
Department of Economics
University of Otago
P.O. Box 56
Dunedin 9054
New Zealand

For more information on IBES, visit http://www.aaea.org/sections/ibes/.

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Joint EAAE/AAEA Seminar
Consumer Behavior in a Changing World: FOOD, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

NAPLES, ITALY | March 25-27, 2015
People Section

California Polytechnic State University

- Appointment Changes: Xiaowei Cai, Associate Professor with tenure; Michael McCullough, Associate Professor with tenure.

Colorado State University

- Award: Dr. James Pritchett, Colorado FFA Foundation, Rising Star Award.
- Leave: Dr. Stephan Kroll, Social Science Center Berlin (WZB), Germany, February–April 2015 and Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Potsdam, Germany, April–July 2015.

University of Connecticut

- New Appointments: Richard Dunn, Assistant Professor; Nathan Fiala, Assistant Professor; Charles Towe, Assistant Professor; Adam Rabinowitz, Assistant Professor; Tatiana Andreyeva, Associate Research Professor.
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Eleonora de Falcis, MS, Consultant, Economic Division of Agri2000, Castel Maggiore; Xun Li, PhD, Assistant Professor, Wuhan University; Luz Londono Diaz, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Connecticut; Laura Dunn, MS, Global Energy Associate, Noble Group; Hualu Zheng, PhD, Category Sales Analyst, Home Market Foods Inc.; Elena Castellari, PhD, Research Professor, Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore.
- Retirement: Marilyn Altobello, 36 years of service.
- Visitors: Dr. Meiying He, South China Agricultural University, January 30, 2015–January 30, 2016; Carlos Andrea Onate Paredes, PhD Candidate, University of Sao Paulo, January 5–May 29, 2015; Laila Wijaya, PhD Candidate, University of New South Wales, January 19–February 7, 2015, Dr. Elena Lopez, University of Alcala, August–October 2014.

International Food Policy Research Institute

- New Appointments: Kwan Andam, Research Fellow; Amanda Zongrone, Associate Research Fellow; Peg Willingham, Head of Advocacy & Policy of HarvestPlus.

University of Kentucky

- Award: Chandler Purdom, Jose Marin, Macie Mattmiller, and Patrick Balling, 1st place–2014 FDRS Food Marketing Challenge.
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Guzhen Zhou, PhD, Assistant Professor, Jiangxi University; Grant Cavanaugh, PhD, Economist, Praedicat, Inc.; Thong Meas, MS, Research Associate, Nuppon Institute for Economic Research.
- Honorary Position: Jerry Skees, honorary doctorate in Agricultural Economics, Mongolian Agricultural University.
- Return from Leave Mehdi Saghaian.
- Resignation: Ani Katchova.
University of Minnesota

- New Appointment: Timothy Delbridge, Research Associate.
- Award: Stephen Polasky, University of Minnesota, Thomson Reuter’s World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds of 2014.
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Andrew Smale, Demand Planning Analyst, John Deere; Travis Smith, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia; Andrew Larson, Adjunct Teaching, Sub-Saharan Development/Advisory Service; Bijie Ren, US Bank; Jong Woo Choi: Korea Rural Economic Institute; Xinshuo Zhang, CFMUTO Powersports Inc.; Mark Zoff, Director of Research at David Hale Global Economics.
- Leave: Donald Liu, 5 months.
- Retirement: Jerry Fruin, 38 years of service.
- Visitors: Marie Baguet, University Graduate Student, University of Cergy-Pontoise, Research Scholar, September 1, 2014–June 6, 2015; Dr. Hasan Gul, Akdeniz University, Research Scholar, September 1, 2014–August 31, 2015; Siqi Li, University Graduate Student, Renmin University, Research Scholar, October 1, 2014–August 31, 2015.

University of Missouri


New Mexico State University

- Graduate: Mario Trillanes, MS, Agricultural Economics.

North Dakota State University

- New Appointment: Dr. Juan Murguia, Inter-American Development Bank.
- Resignation: Dr. Juan Murguia

The Ohio State University

- New Appointments: Neil Drobny, PhD, Director of EEDS Program; Dr. Ani Katchova, Farm Income Enhancement Chair, Director of the Center for Cooperatives, and Associate Professor.
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Joel Binstock, MS, Energy Analysis Associate, Solar City; Joshua Roth, MS/MPA, Community Development Analyst, Ohio Development Services Agency; Betsy Truex-Powell, PhD, Project Manager, Ohio Department of Medicaid.

Texas A&M University

- Award: Blake Bennett, Texas A&M, AgriLife Extension Superior Service Team Award.
- Retirement: A. Gene Nelson.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

- New Appointments: Sarah Asebedo, Assistant Professor of Practice; Susan Richter, Research Assistant Professor.
- Leave: Dr. George Davis, Oxford University in the UK, June–December 2014.
- Resignation: Dr. Kathryn Boys.
- Visitors: Dr. Ane Pan, Associate Professor, Wuhan University of Technology, China, December 2013–December 2014; Dr. Majd Sayed Issa, Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Aleppo, Syria, August 2014 – August 2015.
Call for papers:
Re-assessing rural areas
Approaching the challenges for new “ruralities”

May 24–27, 2015
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Piacenza, Italy
Global Growth Agendas: Regions, Institutions and Sustainability

Rural areas are at times assumed to be characterized by low distribution income and low levels of social and economic capital. This lagging condition was due to a multitude of constraints to development: poor economic potential, isolation, absence of agglomeration economies and creativity. In addition, many scholars thought that these areas were only reservoir of natural resources or specialized only in traditional agricultural activities.

At present, these areas are facing severe pressure: urban sprawl and secondary and tertiary sectors restructuring promote their evident transformation into new territories with untraditional characteristics.

In fact, these changes are not only economic, but also define social and environmental variations; at the same time, the reaction to these changes is not identical for all rural areas.

“Rural” area is now a succession of full and empty spaces, marginal and rehabilitated areas, from the apparent concentration of population and economic activities or disorderly dispersion of settlements, sometimes abandoned. It has a variety of landscapes, such as small urban areas and cities, forests, farms, greenfield sites, concentrations of industrial crops. It has also a social structure and relationship that is not based on the most typical values of rural society and an economic structure based not only on agriculture.

Rural areas are facing their traditional isolation, weakness and vulnerability in new ways.

This session would like to invite to critically debate about all these changes. Assumptions concerning transformations on socio-cultural, environmental and economic realities will be analyzed in order to identify their impacts on rural characteristics and their possible resurgence and dynamism. In addition, government and promotion choices about these changes will be studied. The session tried to bring together papers from a range of discipline, such as regional and rural economics, environmental and social studies.

If you need any information about it, please feel free to contact Valentina Cattivelli (chairman)
valentina.cattivelli13@gmail.com.

If you are interested in participating in the session should submit your abstract to the session organizer. Once your abstract has been accepted you can then register for the conference here:
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

Join the Conversation

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