

## President's Message

### August, 2023

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the AAEA meetings in Washington DC. We had a little over 1600 attendees. The Executive Board met before the start of the meetings and approved several new initiatives, including the creation of the following new task forces:

- 1) Access Task Force to work on how AAEA can foster a more inclusive environment and make it easier for members to attend the meetings.
- 2) Expanding the charge of the Membership Committee to include “engagement” to further support engagement of new members and former members in the work of the AAEA.
- 3) Well-Being Task Force to explore and assess how AAEA can further support the health and well-being of members.
- 4) Publications Task Force to develop a strategic plan for our publications and figure out ways to increase the pipeline and diversity of editors for our journals. Journal revenues are important, and journals are critical for the success of our members. We need a clear strategy on how to support our portfolio of publications to ensure the success of the journals.
- 5) We have a new initiative with ERS to build a program to increase the pipeline of diverse members, consistent with our strategic plan. A working committee has been formed to work on this.



I'll discuss the makeup of these task forces and provide updates in the next newsletters.

The Board has approved a proposal from Jason Bergtold (AETR editor) and Na Zuo to hold a “AAEA Teaching Academy” targeted to graduate students, new faculty, and faculty that wanted to increase their teaching effectiveness or learn new skills. The teaching academy would be attached to the AAEA meetings (as a pre- or post- conference). Additional activities would include online teaching videos and a web page hosted by AETR, a graduate teaching certificate and mentoring program, amongst others.

The Board, with help from our government relations representative Lowell Randel and the department chairs/heads, is also working on changing the classification of agricultural economics and agribusiness to a STEM field. We have submitted a letter to DHS requesting the addition of CIPs representing agricultural business and management (which includes agricultural economics) and environmental/natural resource economics as STEM-designated degrees. We do not know how long this will take but we will keep you posted as we progress with the approval process.

We also discussed potential locations for our annual meetings in 2028 and beyond that can lower the costs and make it cheaper for members to attend. Our AAEA staff, led by executive director Kristen McGuire, will be working on this and recommend potential sites to the board.

Congratulations to all 2023 AAEA award winners and new Fellows (Marc Bellemare, Keith Fuglie, Elena Irwin, David Pannell, Dawn Thilmany, and Holly Wang) and to our new Appreciation Clubs for Carlos Arnade, Julie Caswell, Scott Rozelle, James Wilen, and David Zilberman. Appreciation Clubs give donors and AAEA members the opportunity to contribute to the AAEA Trust in the name of prominent agricultural and applied economists.

I would like to extend my wholehearted appreciation and deep gratitude to Norbert Wilson for his leadership as our President over the past year. His unwavering dedication and commitment have been invaluable in guiding our association. I would also like to express sincere thanks to the three departing board members, Titus Awokuse, Carola Grebitus, and Madhu Khanna for their selfless service and contributions. A special thank you also goes to our AAEA staff (Kristen McGuire, Allison Ware, Mary Annen, Austin Sparbel, Jessica Weister, and Michael Storey) for their tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to AAEA.

Lastly, we will greatly miss the service and wisdom of David Baumann, the retiring COO of Executive Director, Inc. (EDI), the association management company that manages AAEA. Dave has worked with us since 2007. He received the AAEA Presidential Recognition Award in 2009. The AAEA board will be working with Kay Whalen, President of EDI, as our EDI consulting partner upon Dave's retirement this fall.

**Rudy Nayga**

***AAEA President***

## AAEA News

### Announcing New AEPP Editor

AAEA is happy to announce that Jerome Dumortier from Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis will be the incoming editor for AEPP. His duties will begin on January 1, 2024. Thank you to all applicants.



Thank you to Mindy Mallory who will be wrapping up her editorial role December 31, 2023.

### FREE Virtual 2023 Sessions

<i>Session Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Link</i>
Information and Decision Making: Producers, Sellers, and Consumers (EXECON Track Session)	August 17	10:00 am Eastern	<a href="#">Zoom Link</a>
Contemporary Issues facing U.S. Agricultural Trade and Trade Policy	September 6	11:00 am – 2:00 pm Central	<a href="#">Zoom Link</a>
Climate-Smart Markets and Practices on U.S. Livestock Farms	October 5	11:00 am – 2:00 pm Central	<a href="#">Zoom Link</a>

### **AAEA Farm Bill Subject Matter Experts Survey**

The 2018 Farm Bill is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2023. AAEA is working with the House and Senate Agriculture Committees as they conduct hearings and make preparations to reauthorize the Farm Bill. As a part of this process, AAEA is compiling a list of subject matter experts from the AAEA membership who are willing to be a resource to Congressional Staff.

[https://asumorrison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_dgktpv0ayjxQCW](https://asumorrison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dgktpv0ayjxQCW)

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### **Call for Special Issue - Fields of Discord: Understanding the Intersection of Geopolitics and Agriculture**

The relationship between geopolitics and agriculture is increasingly important as the world faces numerous challenges related to food security, climate change, and economic development. In addition, the competition for resources and the global interconnectedness of markets and economies make the relationship between geopolitics and agriculture complex and multifaceted. The special issue in *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* will bring together academic scholarship to explore the intersection of geopolitics and agriculture. Selected papers will discuss the challenges and opportunities this complex relationship presents, including the potential for conflict and tension arising from competing interests and priorities considering economic, social, and environmental aspects. The special issue will examine how agricultural practices intersect with global politics, from land use and resource management to trade policies and food security. The guest editors encourage paper submissions addressing the following topics:

- Geopolitical factors influencing food and agricultural policies;
- The role of geopolitics in agricultural trade and economic development;
- The impact of climate change on agriculture and its geopolitical implications; and
- The effects of migration on agriculture and food systems.

The special issue will comprise six papers and an editorial paper. A two-stage selection approach will be implemented, where, in the first stage, potential contributors are identified through the 2023 IATRC summer symposium. More information can be obtained at [www.tinyurl.com/3s7w4rdh](http://www.tinyurl.com/3s7w4rdh). Then, extended abstract submissions (750 words) for the special issue are requested with a due date on August 1, 2023. Please submit your paper's abstract following the link: [www.tinyurl.com/2ymayts4](http://www.tinyurl.com/2ymayts4).

Based on the submitted extended abstracts, the guest editors will identify papers that best fit the call and invite those for full consideration. Selected papers will be sent out for rigorous double-blind peer review per the AEPP submission guidelines, with a submission deadline of **September 30, 2023**. Two rounds of peer reviews are planned, with the themed special issue to be published in May 2024.

The guest editors are Sílvia Helena Galvão de Miranda (Escola Superior de Agricultura Luiz de Queiroz, Universidade de São Paulo) and Sandro Steinbach (Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies, North Dakota State University). They can be reached at [shgdmira@usp.br](mailto:shgdmira@usp.br) and [sandro.steinbach@ndsu.edu](mailto:sandro.steinbach@ndsu.edu).

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### **Special Issue: Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics Use in the Classroom and Academy**

*Applied Economics and Teaching Resources* is calling for manuscripts about use of artificial intelligence (AI) and data analytics in undergraduate and graduate education in the classroom and across the academy. Submissions of case studies, teaching and extension scholarship and research, educational innovations and methods, extension education innovations and methods, and commentaries about use of artificial intelligence,

including use of large language models (LLMs) and platforms, such as ChatGPT, Bing AI, Bard, amongst other, and data analytics in undergraduate and graduate education, extension education, and other learning venues in institutions of higher learning. This special issue is open to a wide array of topics related to artificial intelligence and data analytics across the agricultural and applied economics and agribusiness and management economics disciplines. Topics may include but are not limited to innovative use of AI and data analytics in the classroom; innovative data analytic teaching modules and teaching case studies; teaching case studies about the impact of AI on agriculture, the agricultural industry and society; ethical and academic concerning the use of AI in the academy; assessments of AI for different learning outcomes and tasks; and use of AI and data analytics in extension education programming.

#### Special Issue Timeline:

If you are interested in making a submission to the special issue, please submit a 300 word abstract to Dr. Jason Bergtold ([bergtold@ksu.edu](mailto:bergtold@ksu.edu)) by **December 31, 2023** at the latest. The abstract should describe the overall theme/topic of the manuscript, how it relates to the special issue call, and how it can be used for educational purposes. Your abstract will be reviewed once submitted and you will then be informed if you will be invited to submit a submission to the special issue.

Full papers for accepted abstracts must be submitted through AETR at [www.aetrjournal.org](http://www.aetrjournal.org). All papers will go through a double-blind peer review process and be available online via Advanced Access for readers once accepted. All submissions will need to follow the AETR submission guidelines at: <https://www.aetrjournal.org/contribute/submission-guidelines>. If you have questions about the special issue, please email the special issue editors.

## Government Relations & Washington Update

### August 2023

#### FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations Update

Congress has left Washington, DC for the August recess with some uncertainty on next steps for the fiscal year 2024 agriculture appropriations bill. Both the House and Senate Appropriations committees have passed their respective versions of the bill, but neither has been brought to the floor for full consideration. The House had planned to take up its version on the floor the last week of July, but ran into problems setting the parameters for amendments in the House Rules Committee. Legislation must go through the Rule Committee to establish the rules of floor debate and which amendments will be allowed for consideration. Some Republican members were advocating for larger reductions in overall spending while others objected to provisions related policies around the abortion pill mifepristone. Republicans were unable to resolve these differences prior to August recess so further action on the bill will not occur until September. The Senate has yet to schedule floor action for any of the annual appropriations bills.

With a limited number of legislative days before the end of the fiscal year, there may be a need for a short-term continuing resolution to keep the government funded while Congress works to complete the various appropriations bills. Congress has some incentives to finish before the end of the calendar year. The debt ceiling package passed earlier this year includes a provision that would reduce spending by one percent for spending bills that are not enacted by January 1, 2024.

Below are links to additional information regarding the House and Senate bills:

House FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations Bill:

- [House Bill Summary](#)
- [House Bill Text](#)
- [House Report](#)

Senate FY 2024 Agriculture Appropriations Bill:

- [Senate Bill Summary](#)
- [Senate Bill Text](#)
- [Senate Report](#)

### **Agriculture Committees Continue Farm Bill Preparations**

With Congress in recess for August, members and staff of the [House](#) and [Senate](#) Agriculture Committees are ramping up their efforts to draft the 2023 Farm Bill. Several farm bill listening sessions are scheduled around the country during August where Members of Congress are getting input from stakeholders on what they would like to see in the next farm bill. At the same time, committee staff are beginning the process of putting together legislative language. With the current farm bill set to expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>, it is increasingly likely that a short-term extension of authority may be needed to give the committees sufficient time to complete their work.

### **Secretary Vilsack Announces New Food Security Dashboard at APEC Food Security Ministerial**

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack chaired the recent [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum](#) (APEC) [Food Security Ministerial](#) meeting in Seattle. Secretary Vilsack led engagement with APEC member economy leaders, delegates, and industry representatives on the importance of building a more resilient and interconnected region that advances broad-based economic prosperity through sustainable, resilient agri-food systems. He also emphasized the important role innovation plays in seeking solutions through climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable agricultural productivity growth and global food security. During the meeting, Vilsack announced that USDA is standing up a new [Food Security Dashboard](#) to provide decision-makers with access to a wide range of indicators reflecting several facets of food and nutrition security, such as: indicators of food insecurity, trade disruption vulnerability, importance of imports to food security, daily caloric intake per person, and calorie content of a diet broken down by food groups. The dashboard provides information on the role of trade in food security and gives a roadmap to which foods are needed and how to get countries those foods.

## Other News

### **Food Distribution and Research Society (FDRS) and AgSummit**

The Food Distribution Research Society's annual conference, held in collaboration this year with the National Agriculture Summit, will be held from Sunday, November 12 to Tuesday, November 14 in Washington D.C. We have a great schedule planned, with the Summit theme "Cultivating connection" as well as with FDRS research sessions and events. Please visit our [AgSummit website](#) for more information.

Our joint call for proposals for the Food Distribution and Research Society (FDRS) and AgSummit is now open. We invite individuals and groups to submit a proposed presentation through this [online survey](#).

Attached, you can find a pdf version of an abbreviated survey for more information prior to submitting. The FDRS sessions will be on Monday, November 13 and the AgSummit sessions will be on Tuesday, November 14.

The call for proposals will remain open through **August 15, 2023**.

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### **Call for Applications**

#### **Fulbright Postdoctoral Research Fellowships for U.S. Citizens in All Disciplines**

Academic Years 2024/25

Fellowships are open to researchers in all academic disciplines and support research programs in Israel for up to 20 months (two academic years).

Benefits:

- Stipend: \$95,000 (\$47,500 per academic year for two years)
- Reimbursement of up to \$1,700 for airfare expenses for Fulbright fellows (and spouses)
- Partial reimbursement of children's education expenses and fees

Apply by **September 15, 2023**

Visit the program page on our website at <https://fulbright.org.il/USPostdoc>

For further information or inquiries, please contact:

Assaf Levinton

Tel: +972 3 5213808

[USprograms@fulbright.org.il](mailto:USprograms@fulbright.org.il)

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### **Call for Papers: Special Issue of the Agricultural Finance Review on the Farm Bill**

The guest editors for a special issue of the *Agricultural Finance Review* on "New Developments in U.S. Agricultural Lending: Implications for Federal Farm Bill Programs" invite authors to submit articles for consideration. This issue aims to provide timely insights into how the current agricultural credit and financial landscape is relevant for ongoing discussions about the next Farm Bill cycle, which begins this year. This special issue will advance knowledge on agricultural lending and related topics that can inform the upcoming Farm Bill and agricultural policy more generally. We intend to achieve this goal by publishing papers on diverse topics with connections to agricultural lending and policy, including labor, trade, and finance. The focus should be on relating those topics to recent changes that have occurred in the agricultural credit and financial landscape from 2018 onwards, including evaluation of government programs. Novel analyses of agricultural lending that are relevant to agricultural policy would also be suitable.

Articles must be submitted by **August 30**. Please contact the guest editors (below) for more information or visit [this website](#).

#### Guest Editors:

Anil K. Giri, USDA-ERS: [anil.giri@usda.gov](mailto:anil.giri@usda.gov)

Margaret Jodlowski, The Ohio State University: [jodlowski.1@osu.edu](mailto:jodlowski.1@osu.edu)

Jennifer Ifft, Kansas State University: [jiff@ksu.edu](mailto:jiff@ksu.edu)

Dipak Subedi, USDA-ERS: [dipak.subedi@usda.gov](mailto:dipak.subedi@usda.gov)

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**68th Annual Conference of the Australasian Agricultural & Resource Economics Society**

Date: February 6–9, 2024

Venue: Australian National University Campus, Canberra, Australia

Description: Theme: Grand Challenges at the Frontier of Applied Economics

The Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) is the pre-eminent organization promoting applied economics research and policy engagement in agricultural and resources industries including, agribusiness, food systems, and the environment. Our journal, the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (AJARE) publishes original, high-quality, and interdisciplinary research and policy analysis pertaining to agriculture, the environment and natural resources.

The theme of the AARES 2024 conference, “Grand challenges at the frontier of applied economics”, will focus discussions on the cutting edge of applied economics. We endeavor to explore the grand challenges that are facing the Australasian region and beyond, such as biosecurity, climate change, environmental degradation, energy systems, and food security.

This conference will provide a forum for our Society to explore new opportunities for research and development, and policy practice that can address these grand challenges in securing efficient, effective, and equitable outcomes. Distinguished researchers and professionals will present keynote presentations to inspire and stimulate discussions at the AARES 2024 conference.

The 2024 Annual Conference of AARES is going to be held on the Australian National University Campus in Canberra. A dedicated conference website will be established closer to the event.

In mid-2023 the local organizing committee will call for proposals for:

- Pre-conference Workshops; these will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024
  - Mini-symposia and themed sessions, and contributed papers; these will be scheduled during the conference proper, February 7–9, 2024
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### Member Benefits

- [Membership Directory](#)
- [Members in the News Highlights](#)
- [Mentoring](#)
- [AJAE Advance Access](#)
- [AEPP Advance Access](#)
- [Applied Economic Teaching Resources](#)
- [JAAEA Open Access Journal](#)

### The Exchange

published biweekly by the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association.

Submissions to *The Exchange*:

email: [aware@aaea.org](mailto:aware@aaea.org)

or

[info@aaea.org](mailto:info@aaea.org)

[www.aaea.org](http://www.aaea.org)



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### Open Jobs

- [Agribusiness Lecturer](#)  
Clemson University (Posted: 08/01/2023)
- [Project Manager](#)  
Michigan State University (Posted: 07/28/2023)
- [Full-Time Faculty Position for Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, or Full Professors](#)  
The Department of Agricultural Economics, National Taiwan University (Posted: 07/20/2023)
- [Assistant Professor](#)  
University of Manitoba (Posted: 07/20/2023)

*View Job Openings on the [AAEA Job Board](#)*

### Working with the Media

What research are you working on? Want to be an expert source for journalists working on a story?

Contact Allison Ware at [AWare@aaea.org](mailto:AWare@aaea.org)

[View all Press Releases HERE](#)

### Member in the News

Do you know an AAEA Member who has made statewide, national, or international news?

Send a link of the article to Austin Sparbel at [asparbel@aaea.org](mailto:asparbel@aaea.org) or [info@aaea.org](mailto:info@aaea.org).

[View other Members in the News HERE](#)

### Anti-Harassment and Code of Conduct Policy

AAEA is committed to the fair, ethical treatment of all of its members and all other individuals participating in AAEA activities or activities connected with, or related to, AAEA activities, while providing an atmosphere that promotes a variety of research, teaching and extension/outreach activities.

AAEA has zero tolerance for, and prohibits any type of, discrimination or harassment, including sexual harassment, either within the organization, at professional meetings, in the field, or anywhere professional activities are conducted under the aegis of the AAEA.

View the [policy](#) here.