

A Message from the President

Dear AAEA Members,

It was with great sadness and heavy hearts that we learned of the passing of Giovanni Anania on July 15, 2015. Giovanni was Professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Calabria in Italy and President of the European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) at the time of his death.

Giovanni was a widely known scholar and a close friend to a great many AAEA members. His warm smile and friendly nature will be greatly missed. I first met Giovanni at a conference in Capri many years ago and I still have the personal gift that he gave to all of the meeting attendees. This was Giovanni—a friend to everyone with exceptional hospitality and warmth to all.



Giovanni received his PhD from the University of California, Davis and was a favorite among the large community of scholars with ties to Davis. Giovanni had a very long and distinguished career and was one of the world's leading experts on European agricultural policy and international trade. On behalf of the entire AAEA membership, as well as the International Agricultural Trade Research Consortium (IATRC)—of which Giovanni was a long-time, active member—we express our sadness and condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues. Our profession has lost one of its best and our future meetings and professional interactions will never be the same without the warmth and friendliness of Giovanni Anania.

Barry Goodwin
AAEA President

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AAEA News

2015 AAEA & WAEA
JOINT ANNUAL MEETING



JULY 26-28, 2015

Registration On-Site Only

The majority of the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting activities will take place at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis. The room block reservation deadline was Tuesday, June 23. To make changes to your current reservation or to check availability, please call 1-877-622-3056 and make sure to mention that you are a part of the AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting.

For information on additional hotels in the area, please visit:

<http://www.sanfrancisco.travel/explore/hotels>.

Registration:

All Registrations or ticket purchases will need to take place on-site in San Francisco.

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 [post-conference workshops](#) are not included with the main registration fee, but can be purchased on-site up until the day before the event.

The Marriott Marquis is located (780 Mission Street, San Francisco CA, 94103) 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 grab & go market 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 near the hotel, click [here](#) or visit <http://bitly.com/1uUQb3b>.

The final program is now available [online](#) to for the most up-to-date information download the [mobile app](#) to your smartphone and/or tablet.

Type	On-Site Only
Professional Member	\$545
Professional Non-Member	\$695
Senior Member*	\$435
Senior Non-Member*	\$555
Graduate Student Member	\$180
Graduate Student Non-Member	\$300
Undergraduate Student**	\$20
*Senior Member: 65+ years of age and retired	
**Register undergraduate students via telephone by calling (414) 918-3190	



AAEA has a new section started – the Africa Section. We are holding our inaugural section organizing meeting on Sunday, July 26 in Sierra H at 11:30. If you are working in Africa or has an interest in working in Africa, or working with people working in Africa and just want to learn more about doing research, teaching and outreach in Africa, come join us for conversations about how we can organize the Africa Section into a vibrant and exciting section in our Association. If you have questions, please contact Vincent Amanor-Boadu at vincent@ksu.edu. I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of people and discovering some creative ways of enhancing scholarship in Africa and increasing the vibrancy of African agricultural and applied economics within AAEA.

**Senior Section Invited Paper Session:
Hunger Relief Programs: Improving Food Access**

The food bank network in the United States plays a key role in meeting food needs of persons who are food insecure; but how do we improve the efficiency of the hunger relief programs and address their nutritional content? This Invited Paper Session at the AAEA Meetings will review ongoing research and emphasize the future research needs of the food banks and their agencies to accomplish these objectives. The session is co-sponsored by the Food Safety and Nutrition Section and the Senior Section.

Feeding America (FA) is the largest hunger relief provider in the United States with 200 food banks, the organizations that collect and distribute food to their agencies. These agencies support 58,000 feeding programs providing food assistance to 46.5 million people, including 12 million children and 7 million seniors (Hunger in America Report 2014). Moreover, many of these households are facing significant diet-related health challenges. For example, 1 in 3 households have someone with diabetes and 58% report someone with hypertension (Hunger in America Report 2014).

Although distributing healthy food is a primary goal for food banks and their agencies, they face many challenges in meeting this goal. Budgets for purchasing food are always limited,



and hunger relief agencies often have little influence over the nutritional quality of food they receive through donations.

The presentation of ongoing research in this area illustrates the potential for more work. (1) The first paper is an overview of food banking and will illustrate the application of behavioral economics to the challenge of improving the nutrition of program beneficiaries at food pantries. (2) Another two year-long study calculates monthly Healthy Eating Index (HEI) scores using electronic invoice data for 273 food pantries served by two major food banks in Minnesota. This involved capturing transaction data in electronic form and mapping the food items in the regular inventory to the FNDDS database. However, more than 30 percent (by weight) of the food moving through food banks to food pantries is free “miscellaneous” food donated by food stores and food distributors and is not part of the regular food bank inventory. This required the development of another method for characterizing the healthfulness of the food distributed. (3) An analytical model developed in New York helps food banks improve their gleaning operations, particularly for fruits and vegetables. In the model, gleaning opportunities arrive randomly to the food bank, and are processed with stochastic processing

times that depend on the location of the farm, the volume of the harvest, and the availability of labor for gleaning. Consequently, the capacity levels and operating policies that maximize service level for a given operating budget can be determined.

This session offers valuable insights on the

nutritional quality of hunger relief food and provides three examples of research studies to evaluate and improve the operations of this important segment of our food system. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the applied research opportunities related to this high-priority societal need. Join us Monday, July 27, at 1:00 PM in room Salon 1.

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 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.

Tyler B. Mark

SS-AAEA, Junior Advisor



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



Food Safety and Nutrition Section Track Sessions:

Modeling Current Issues in Food System Analysis

This session examines four presentations from a variety of lenses in food and agribusiness management. The common threads among them are consumer preferences, prices, and information dissemination/acquisition. Each paper uses a different data source, a different analysis approach, and a different food policy issue. The discussant will assimilate the papers into common themes and we hope for lively audience participation in the time allocated for discussion.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Chen Zhen, RTI International: Food Access and Prices: Estimating Food-at-home Demand
- Jane Kolodinsky, University of Vermont: GM Labeling and the Use of the Word “Natural”
- Karen E. Lewis, University of Tennessee: Analyzing the Determinants of Consumers’ Willingness to Pay for Soft Drinks Labeled with Calorie and Sweetener Information
- Christiane Schroeter, Cal Poly–San Luis Obispo: A Dynamic Model Estimation of Tax and Subsidy Impacts on Obesity

Christiane Schroeter of Cal Poly– San Luis Obispo will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored by the Econometrics Section and will take place on Monday, July 27, between 9:45 AM and 11:15 AM in room Sierra I. Don’t miss this session; it promises to provide some interesting insights into various controversial topics.

Hunger Relief Programs: Exploring Methods to Improve Food Access

In this invited paper session we will explore hunger relief programs in the US and consider these programs as an important area of research for applied economists. The session will highlight the importance of the food bank network in meeting food needs of persons who are food insecure. We will identify areas to improve the efficiency of hunger relief programs, and we will also address methods to improve the nutrition of the offerings of these programs. The papers reflect ongoing research from behavioral economics to supply chain analysis. In the session, we will engage the members of the AAEA and WAEA in research opportunities at food banks and their agencies.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Norbert Wilson, Auburn University: Hunger Relief Programs and Behavioral Economics: An Introduction
- Robert King, University of Minnesota: How Healthy Is Hunger Relief Food?
- Miguel I. Gomez, Cornell University: Improving Food Bank Gleaning Operations: An Application in New York State

Ginny Sorensen, Education and Training Programs Manager of the Oregon Food Bank will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored with the Senior Section and will take place on Monday, July 27, between 1:00 PM–2:30 PM in room Salon 1.

Children's Food Choices Throughout the Day: Looking Beyond the School Lunchroom

Although multiple initiatives are already underway to try to manipulate children's food choices in elementary and secondary school lunchrooms, there remains a concern that healthful lunchtime choices might be counteracted by compensatory behavior at other times of day. Children and adolescents have remarkable spending power, both potential and actual. However, most traditional research has ignored the economic activity and decisions of these young consumers, with only a few exceptions. More generally, the process by which children make food-purchasing decisions is not well understood, despite evidence that children have considerable autonomous purchasing power, and that much of it is directed toward food. Those few studies that do

exist suggest the bulk of this autonomous food purchasing behavior is directed toward energy-dense, nutrient-poor foods (Borradaile et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2007).

Speakers in this track session are:

- Monika Hartmann, University of Bonn, Germany: Children's purchase behavior in the snack market: The role of internal and external factors
- Drew Hanks, The Ohio State University: School lunches and daily calorie intake
- Sean B. Cash, Tufts University: Using price promotions to encourage healthier snack purchases by children in corner stores

Studying this behavior across a variety of food environments is crucial to understanding the

total impact of environmental influences upon children's dietary and health outcomes. This session reports on the results of three novel studies using very different approaches to understand children's food choice and consumption patterns; dietary recall studies on what children eat throughout the day, children's responses to snack food brands in choice experiments, and children's responses to food price interventions in convenience stores.

Helen Jensen of Iowa State University will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored by IBES. It will take place on Monday, July 27, between 2:45 PM and 4:15 PM in room Sierra H. Make sure to stop by for this session- we look forward to seeing you!

Including Subjective Beliefs in Empirical Models of Choice and Preferences: Methodological and Food Policy Implications

Agricultural economists estimate WTP for product attributes or policy options routinely. But what kind of inference can be drawn from such estimates? A decision not to pay premium prices for organics may indicate a low valuation of environmental or health outcomes (i.e. preference). Or, it could be the consumer does not believe organic production will deliver such outcomes (Lusk, Schroeder, and Tonsor, 2013). As many outcomes associated to labeled attributes (or policy alternatives) are credence in nature, many consumers' decisions are based on both preferences and beliefs. Without accounting for beliefs, researchers cannot understand what exactly consumers are trying to buy with their food dollars, and policy recommendations based on confounded WTP estimates may be misguided. The debate over the inclusion of subjective beliefs in models of choice has just started in food economics literature, and many issues remain unresolved. Several belief elicitation methods have been proposed,

including likert scales, the probabilistic quantification of the likelihood of an outcome, or indirect experimental approaches (Costanigro, Deselnicu, and Kroll, 2014). Another important problem relates to how to address (or avoid) endogeneity in regression models including subjective beliefs as right-hand-side variables. The session is comprised of four papers presenting alternative methods for belief elicitation and approaches to econometric estimation.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Jayson L. Lusk, Oklahoma State University: Measuring beliefs about expected prices: Reference-Dependent Decision Making when the Reference Price is Uncertain
- Marco Costanigro, Colorado State University: Consumer Preferences for Chianti Geographical Indications Controlling for Taste Expectations
- Gregory Howard, East Carolina University: Perceived Program Effectiveness and Farmer Preferences for Agricultural Incentive Programs
- Yuko Onozaka, University of Stavanger: Including Subjective Beliefs in a Model of Salmon Consumption: A Random Matching Approach

In addition to highlighting the pros and cons of each approach, we expect the discussion to focus on how accounting for beliefs can augment and improve the conclusions drawn from surveys and choice experiments. Brian Roe, The Ohio State University will serve as the discussant. The session is co-sponsored by FAMPS and will take place on Monday, July 27, between 2:45 PM and 4:15 PM in room Sierra K.

Costs and Consequences of Recent Legislation Affecting Dairy and Food Safety

This organized session will focus on impacts related to parts of two key pieces of legislation, namely, the Dairy Title of the 2014 Farm Bill, and the Food Safety Modernization Act of 2011. Specific focus will be given to how the new regulations and policies will be implemented, projected costs, and other implications for US farms, food processors, and other agribusiness. The potential implications of these policies on the profitability and risk of farms and smaller-scale agribusiness firms will be of particular focus.

- John Bovay, USDA-ERS: Implementing FSMA Produce Rules: Cost Variation by Commodity and Region

- Kathryn Boys, North Carolina State University: Foreign Supplier Verification Requirements: FSMA's long reach into international food and feed markets
- Marin Bozic, University of Minnesota: The Analysis of Dairy Margin Protection Program Adoption Decisions Using Administrative Enrollment Data.
- Fanda Yang, University of Minnesota: Understanding Dairy Farm Financial Risk

Martha Sullins of Colorado State University will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored by ARA and will take place on Monday, July 27, between 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM in room Sierra E.

Understanding and Analyzing IRI Scanner Data

Government agencies and academic researchers are increasingly using proprietary commercial data on point-of-sale and household food purchases. Previously, many high profile research projects

conducted in collaboration with the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) relied on Nielsen Homescan household-based scanner data spanning the years 1999–2010. However, ERS has more recently begun acquiring more extensive data from IRI including household-based scanner data (Consumer Network), retail scanner data (InfoScan), detailed nutrition data at the UPC level, and health and wellness data for a subset of the households (RxPulse and MedProfiler) spanning the years 2008–2013. With the availability of these new data, it is important to understand the characteristics and statistical properties of the data because these may have important implications for interpreting analysis results. Furthermore, it is now possible to conduct more extensive analyses than in previous years. The purpose of this session is to present and discuss analyses examining the properties of the data and results of initial analyses.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Christiane Schroeter, Cal Poly– San Luis Obispo: Using IRI Household Data: An Application to Produce Purchasing Behavior and Health Outcomes
- Chen Zhen, RTI International: Do Differences in Reported Expenditures between Commercial Household-based Scanner Data and Government Surveys Matter in a Structural Model of Food Demand?
- David Levin, USDA–ERS: Product Entry and Exit: Evidence and Nutrient Content Implications
- Kristen Capogrossi, RTI International: Differences in the Estimated Value of Health Labeling Statements to Consumers between IRI and Gladson Nutrition Data: Breakfast Cereal and Soup

Carlos Carpio of Texas Tech University will be the moderator. The session is co-sponsored by GSS and will take place on Monday, July 27, between 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM in room Sierra H.

These presentations will be of great value to graduate students and to food policy researchers who would like to gain an understanding of how the data may be used to address a broad range of research questions.

Acing the Race to Tenure: A Forum on Publication and Career Strategies

Applied economists usually begin their first academic jobs well-equipped with many tools and methods for evaluating economic issues. However, navigating the many aspects and demands of the Tenure-track Assistant Professor position can be daunting. Being successful in the field requires evaluation through peer-reviewed publications as well being able to balance commitments in other

facets of the job. Delivering award winning teaching, securing external grant funding, supervising multiple graduate students, can easily turn from career boosting opportunities into costly time sinks. Not to mention the ‘oh so’ important engagement in committee work. The ability to say ‘no’ at the right time and a clear early-career strategy can pave the way to getting Tenure. This track

session brings together early-career and experienced members of the academic community to provide tips, share experiences, and discuss how to ‘Ace the Race to Tenure.’ Speakers in this track session are:

- Sven Anders, University of Alberta: “Spreading it thin”– Managing projects and other time sinks

- Lisa House, University of Florida: Strategies for successful teaching and grant writing
 - David Just, Cornell University: Publishing inside and outside of your field
 - Wade Brorsen, Oklahoma State University: Accept or Reject: An editor's insight
 - Josh Maples of Oklahoma State University will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Section
- and will take place on Tuesday, July 28, between 9:45 AM and 11:15 AM in room Pacific J. Make sure to stop by for this session—we look forward to seeing you!

Analyzing Food Choices: The Effects of Social Networks, Nutrition Facts in Lunchrooms and Cognitive Abilities

Food choices are influenced by an abundance of determinants. This session sheds light whether and to what extent a relationship between menu labeling, i.e. the posted caloric content of each item next to its price on the menu board, and food consumption exists. One study determines the impact of social networks, healthy eating, physical activity information, and economic incentives on body weight outcomes with the goal to arrive at policy solutions for problems that are inherently based in relatively large, social network environments. Furthermore, the role of cognitive developmental measures in predicting children's response to food prices, warning labels, and other attributes is investigated.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Carola Grebitus, Arizona State University: Analyzing Social Network Effects on Students' Food Choices in School Lunchrooms
- Christiane Schroeter, Cal Poly– San Luis Obispo: Do Social Networks Improve the Effectiveness of Incentive-Based Health Programs?
- Sean B. Cash, Tufts University: Children's cognitive abilities and food choices

Helen Jensen of Iowa State University will be the moderator. This session is co-sponsored by FAMPS. It will take place on Tuesday, July 28, between 1:00 PM– 2:30 PM in room Sierra B. Make sure to stop by for this session!

Food Safety as a Global Public Good: Recent Advances in Strengthening the Foundation for More Effective Food Safety Management Around the World

This session will look at several research and policy efforts designed to create the empirical foundation and policy support needed to manage foodborne disease as a globalized risk. The session will have four talks, three on research and one providing perspective on the forthcoming UN statement on food safety and nutrition followed by a discussant. Laurian Unnevehr will discuss recent efforts by the FAO/WHO to recognize the role of food safety in international nutrition policy as part of the Second International Conference on Nutrition. This effort will result in the first new declaration on nutrition policy actions in 22 years supported by member nations of the UN. Sandra Hoffmann will present results of a large multi-national research effort organized by the WHO designed to provide the first global estimates of the incidence and burden of foodborne disease. This effort provides regional estimates that are globally comparable and link foodborne disease to specific food exposures, and creates a foundation for risk-based country-level interventions. Clare Narrod will present research developing metrics for evaluating the effectiveness of the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition training programs designed to build capacity to manage food safety in developing countries as well as the metrics approach being used to evaluate coordinated investments in food safety capacity

under the World Bank's Global Food Safety Partnership. Kevin Chen will present research on China's new effort to strengthen food safety regulation that provides an important national-level example of institutional development and investment in strengthening food safety institutions.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Sandra Hoffmann, USDA-ERS: WHO's First Global Estimates of Foodborne Disease: What Are They and What Might They Mean for Food Safety Policy.
- Clare Narrod, University of Maryland, JIFSAN: Building Capacity to Assure Food Safety in Low Income Countries: Progress Report on JIFSAN's Training Initiatives
- Kevin Chen, International Food Policy Research Institute: Food Safety Regulatory System in China: Key Elements for Improving Regulatory Effectiveness.
- Laurian Unnevehr, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: The Role of Food Safety in the FAO/WHO Second International Conference on Nutrition

Our discussant, Helen Jensen, Iowa State University, will provide a perspective on how these and other efforts are likely to affect the ability to manage food safety risks around the world. The session is co-sponsored by FAMPS and will take place on Tuesday, July 28, between 2:45 PM and 4:15 PM in room Sierra K.

Advancing Behavioral Methods for Assessing Consumer Demand: Applications to Food Safety and Animal Welfare

Agricultural and applied economists are continually challenged to assess the value consumers ascribe to key credence attributes attached to food. These attributes, which include safety, nutritional and locational aspects of food, draw on preferences that may be particularly difficult to assess because these preferences may be particularly sensitive to the amount, type and format of information provided and, hence, sensitive to any cognitive anomalies associated with the burgeoning field of behavioral economics. The papers in this session apply and expand existing methods of assessing consumer preferences for credence attributes of foods that may be particularly subject to behavioral anomalies, including the role of patriotism in assessing preferences for food safety, the role of retail outlet in evaluating food safety information and the role of order effects in assessing the demand for animal welfare certifications.

Speakers in this track session are:

- Brenna Ellison, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Are All Organic Labels Treated Equally? The Influence of Retail Outlet on Consumer Perceptions of and Willingness-to-Pay for Organic Tomatoes
- David Ortega, Michigan State University: Chinese Demand for Pork and Implications for the US Pork Industry: Experimental Results from Mainland and Hong Kong Consumers
- Ying (Jessica) Cao, University of Guelph: Order Effects on the Prediction of Consumer Behaviors in Repeated Choice Experiments

Wuyang Hu, University of Kentucky, will be moderator and Brian Roe, The Ohio State University, will be discussant. This session is co-sponsored by IBES and takes place on Tuesday, July 28, between 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM in room Sierra J. Don't miss this session, as it will provide interesting insights into consumer demand.

People Section

University of California, Berkeley

- Return from Leave: **Ethan Ligon**



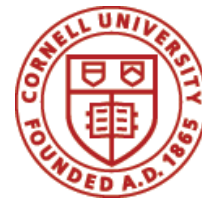
University of California, Davis

- Awards: **J. Edward Taylor**, AAEA, Fellow; **Alan L. Olmstead**, AAEA, Fellow; **Anil Bhargava**, AAEA, Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award; **Richard J. Sexton**, AAEA, Distinguished Teaching Award, Graduate Teaching: Ten or More Years' Experience; **J. Edward Taylor**, **Mateusz Filipski**, AAEA, Quality of Communication Award; **Colin Carter**, **Ben Santer**, **Maximilian Auffhammer**, **Alan Olmstead**, **Paul Rhode**, **Richard Howitt**, **David Zilberman**, **Scott Kaplan**, AAEA, Quality of Communication Award, Honorable Mention; **Julian Alston**, **G.W Norton**, **Philip Pardey**, AAEA, Publication of Enduring Quality Award; **Nathan Hendricks**, **Aaron Smith**, **Daniel Sumner**, AAEA, Outstanding AJAE Article Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Ghada Elebad**, PhD, Young Professional Program, World Bank
- Retirements: **Karen Klonsky**, 34 years of service; **Y.H. Farzin**, 18 years of service

Colorado State University

- New Appointments: **Alessandro Bonanno**, Assistant Professor; **Rebecca Cleary**, Affiliate assistant professor
- Appointment Change: **Jordan Suter**, Associate Professor
- Award: **Dale McCall**, College of Agricultural Sciences, Colorado State University; CAS Outstanding Alumni
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Tyler Cozzens**, PhD, Agricultural Economist, USDA–Foreign Agricultural Service; **Janine Stone**, PhD, Assistant Professor, California State University–Chico
- Return from leave: **Stephan Kroll**
- Leave: **Greg Graff**; Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden, 1 year
- Resignation: **Dustin Pendell**
- Visitors: **Fabio Boncinelli**, Research Fellow, University of Florence; Research Scholar, 6 months; **Roman Savchenko**, Zhytomyr National Agroecological University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Oleksandr Chaikin**, Zhytomyr National Agroecological University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Alexandr Fedorchuk**, Kherson State Agrarian University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Nataliia Maslak**, Sumy State Agrarian University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Olga Varchenko**, Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Eleonora Kirieieva**, Vinnytsia National Agrarian University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester; **Olena Pavlova**, Odessa State Agrarian University, Faculty Exchange Program, Fall Semester



Cornell University

- New Appointments: **Zeshawn Beg**, Visiting Assistant Professor; **Geoffrey Fisher**, Assistant Professor; **John Hoddinott**, Professor; **Robert Karpman**, Adjunct Professor; **David Lennox**, Senior Lecturer; **Sherif Nasser**, Visiting Assistant Professor; **Sumudu Watugala**, Assistant Professor; **Scott Yonker**, Assistant Professor
- Appointment Changes: **Bradley Rickard**, Associate Professor; **Shanjun Li**, Associate Professor
- Awards: **Miguel Gómez**, International Journal of Wine Business Research, Highly Commended Paper; **Richard Boisvert**, Honorary Life Member, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association; **Yu Na Lee**, MS Thesis Award of Merit, Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association; **Alyssa Miller**, **Andrew Simons**, Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistants, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Samuel Bell**, PhD, Co-Founder & CEO, Vitalite Zambia Limited; **Lin Sun**, PhD, AVP Risk Management, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China; **Joanna Upton**, PhD, Post-Doctoral Associate, Dyson School; **Carolina Carbajal De Nova**, MS, Professor of Economics, Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana at Iztapalapa; **Marin Cherry**, MS, Food Science Undergraduate Program Coordinator, Cornell University
- Visitors: **Shoujun Huang**, PhD Candidate, Chongqing University, Visiting Scholar, August 1, 2015–July 31, 2016; **John Tobin**, Managing Director and Global Head of Sustainability, Credit Suisse, Visiting Scholar, July 1, 2015–October 31, 2015; **Shobha Shetty**, Practice Manager, The World Bank, Visiting Fellow, June 24, 2015–August 4, 2015; **Xavier Mouchette**, Research Associate, University of Liege, Visiting Scholar, August 1, 2015– January 31, 2016

Kansas State University

- New Appointments: **Dustin Pendell**, Associate Professor; **Brian Coffey**, Assistant Professor; **Nelson Villoria**, Assistant Professor
- Appointment Change: **Christine Wilson**, Agricultural Economics Undergraduate Director
- Award: **Melissa Lynes**, Kansas State University, Richard Elmore Brown College of Agriculture Graduate Student Teaching Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Melissa Lynes**, Industry Economist, Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration.

University of Kentucky

- New Appointment: **Jordan Shockley**, Assistant Professor
- Award: **Jerrold Penn**, AAEA, Graduate Student Teaching Award, University of Kentucky Provost Outstanding Teaching Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Simon Jette-Nantel**, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin, River Falls

University of Idaho

- New appointment: **Ben Eborn**, Area Extension Economics
- Return from Leave: **Philip Watson**
- Retirements: **Paul E. Patterson**, 32 years of service; **C. Wilson Gray**, 34 years of service

- Resignations: **Kate Painter**, **Levan Elbakidze**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- New Appointments: **Sandy Dall’Erba**, Associate Professor; **Peter Christensen**, Assistant Professor
- Award: **Amy Ando**, Resources for the Future, University Fellow
- Resignation: **John Newton**



International Food Policy Research Institution

- Awards: **Kristin Davis**, Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education, Presidential Plaque in Recognition of Exceptional Leadership; **Gissele Gajate Garrido**, Population Association of America, 2015 Poster Session Winner; **Simone Passarelli**, World Food System Conference 2015, Best Presenter; **Xiaobo Zhang**, Economics Research in China, Sun Yefang Prize
- Honorary Position: **Tingju Zhu**, Associate Editor, Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management
- Visitors: **Edward Frongillo**, Department of Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina, Alive & Thrive team and Preventing Malnutrition in Children under 2 years of Age teams



University of Maryland

- New Appointment: **Steve Salant**, Research Professor
- Appointment Change: **Paul Goeringer**, Senior Faculty Specialist
- Leave: **Richard Just**, August 2015– May 2017
- Resignation: **Lint Barrage**
- Visitors: **Eva Martinez Iglesias**, Associate Professor, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain; **Solmaz Shamsadini**, Post-Doctorate, Azad University of Khuzestan, Ahwaz, Iran



University of Minnesota

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Bixuan Sun**, MS, PhD Student, University of Minnesota; **Nicholas Marchio**, MS, Senior Research Assistant, Brookings Institution; **Dulguun Batbold**, PhD, Associate International Economist, Visa Incorporated; **David Smith**, PhD, Research Economist, US Department of Agriculture–Economic Research Service; **Bhagyashree Katare**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University
- Retirements: **Steve Taff**, 30 years; **Claudia Parliament**; **Tom Stinson**



University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- New Appointment: **Taro Mieno**, Assistant Professor, Spatial Economics
- Appointment Changes: **Amalia Yiannaka**, Full Professor; **Karina Schoengold**, Associate Professor
- Retirement: **Dennis M. Conley**, 26 years of service



North Dakota State University**NDSU**

- Appointment Changes: **Dr. Frayne Olson**, Associate Professor; **Dr. Siew Lim**, Associate Professor
- Awards: **Dr. Cheryl J. Wachenheim**, North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture, Teaching Scholar Award; **Dr. Cheryl J. Wachenheim**, Fulbright, Distinguished Chair award to China
- Visitor: **Dr. Guang Zeng**, Associate Professor, College of Economics and Management, Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, China, Visiting Researcher

The Ohio State University

- Award: **Carl Zulauf**, Ohio State Agribusiness Club Banquet, 2015–2016 Outstanding Professor Award
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Gregory Craig**, MS, Economist, Ohio Legislative Service Commission, Columbus, OH; **Trenton Feasel**, MS, Economist, American Electric Power, Columbus, OH; **Nate Hardin**, MS, Merchandising Analyst/Internal Consultant, Giant Eagle, Pittsburgh, PA; **Rosemary Isoto**, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellowship, Tufts University, Medford, MA; **Jennifer Leung**, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor, Economics, Accounting and Business Administration Department, Mount Union University, Mount Union, OH; **Kyle Wefler**, MS, Senior Financial Analyst, Toys R Us, Wayne, NJ
- Honorary Position: **Ani Katchova**, Executive Board Director, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, 2015–2018;
- Retirements: **Douglas Southgate**, 35 years of service; **Cameron Thraen**, 35 years of service

Purdue University**PURDUE**

- New Appointment: **Dr. Nelson Villoria**, Professor at Kansas State University
- Awards: **Wallace E. Tyner**, Purdue University, Morrill Award; **Kevin McNamara**, Afghanistan Agricultural Extension Project: 2014 Secretary's Honor, Global Food Security, US Secretary of Agriculture Afghanistan Agricultural Extension Project
- Honorary Positions: **Christopher Hurt**, Indiana Master Farmer, Prairie Farmer Magazine; **Dr. Raymond Florax**, Fellow, Regional Science Association International; **Holly Wang**, Fellow, Entrepreneurial Leadership Academy Fellow.

USDA - Economic Research Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Economic Research Service

- New Appointments: **Young Jo**, Economist; **Brian Stacey**, Economist; **Todd Hubbs**, Research Economist; **Jacob Fooks**, Research Economist; **Matt Clancy**, Research Economist; **Anil Rupasingha**, Research Economist
- Appointment Changes: **Suzanne Thornsbury**, Branch Chief – Mark & Trade Economics/Crops Branch; **Cynthia Nickerson**, Deputy Director for Communications – Resource and Rural Economics Division; **John Pender**, Chief – Resource and Rural Economics Division/Rural Economy Branch
- Award: **James MacDonald**, AAEA, Fellow
- Retirements: **David Torgerson**, 40 years of service; **Linda Forman**, 38 years of service

Virginia Tech University

- Awards: **Dr. Gustavo Ferreira**, Virginia Tech Gamma Sigma Delta, Teaching Award; **Dr. Ruth Lytton**, Virginia Tech Office of the Provost, Virginia Tech Undergraduate Alumni Advising Award; **Dr. Jason Grant**, American Enterprise Institute, Emerging Scholar; **Dr. Gustavo Ferreira**, Virginia Tech Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research, Cider Teacher of the Week; **Dr. Kim Morgan**, Virginia Tech Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research, Cider Teacher of the Week; **Dr. Martha Walker**, Virginia Tech Alumni Association, Virginia Tech Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension Specialist
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **A. Ahsanuzzaman**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, North South University; **Gwendolen Rees**, MS, Senior Analyst, Water Trading, Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

West Virginia University

- New Appointments: **Heather Stephens**, Assistant Professor of Energy Economics; **Levan Elbakidze**, Assistant Professor of Industrial Ecology and Operation Research in Shale Gas
- Award: **Mike Strager**, West Virginia University, WVU Foundation Outstanding Teaching Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Nazia Arbab**, PhD, Post-Doctoral Associate, Center for Resilient Landscapes, Rutgers University



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

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AAEA Events & Deadlines

- [July 25](#) [Pre-Conference Workshops](#)
- [July 26-28](#) [2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting](#)
- [July 27](#) [COSBAE, CWAE, & Extension Section Speaker Series Luncheon](#)
[AAEA Awards and Fellows Recognition Ceremony](#)
[International Section and IATRC Speaker Series and Banquet](#)
[Reunions and Receptions](#)
- [July 29](#) [Post-Conference Workshops](#)

Government Relations

Budget and Appropriations Update

Both the US House and Senate approved the agricultural appropriations bills out of the appropriations committees. While floor time is not expected, there are some difference in the bills that have implications for the profession both. Namely, the appropriations levels for the Economic Research Service and the National Agricultural Statistics Service are at 2014 levels in the House bill and roughly at 2015 levels in the Senate bill. Additionally, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's premier competitive grants program gets a \$10M boost in the House bill, but stays at FY15 levels in the Senate bill.

For more information on what C-FARE, COPAFs, and other organizations are doing to increase awareness of the incredible importance of agricultural statistics and analysis, please see the Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis section below.

Office of the Chief Economist

- 2015 Appropriation: \$17,377,000
- 2016 Estimate (President's Budget): \$17,465,000
- House 2016 Committee: \$16,777,000
- Senate 2016 Committee: \$16,777,000

Both the House and Senate language indicates a strong interest in information on drought resilience. US Congress is concerned about the extent and severity of drought in the US and recognizes the importance of understanding and being prepared for drought. As a result, it encourages the OCE to continue research and work with partners on drought resilience efforts to better address the serious threat posed by drought in the US Policy Research. There is \$4M for policy research related to complex economic and baseline analysis for the benefit of USDA, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Congress.

Economic Research Service (ERS)

- 2015 Appropriation: \$85,373,000
- 2016 Estimate (President's Budget): \$86,023,000
- House 2016 Committee: \$78,058,000
- Senate 2016 Committee: \$85,373,000

The US Senate expressed an interest in all of the areas that ERS covers, but the bill has specific language related to organic data analysis. It states that the organic industry has grown at a tremendous rate over the past several years and accurate data for the reproduction, pricing and marketing of organic products is essential. There were no comments to this regard in the House Bill.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

- 2015 Appropriation: \$172,408,000
- 2016 Estimate (President's Budget): \$180,346,000

- House 2016 Committee: \$161,206,000
- Senate 2016 Committee: \$168,108,000

The Senate bill recommends additional focus pollinators and the Chemical Use Program. The Senate version also includes funding to reinstate the vineyard production survey that gathers information essential about annual pricing and purchasing agreements, as well as long-term production planning. The House includes no language for NASS regarding priorities.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Research and Education Activities

- 2015 Appropriation: \$786,874,000 (AFRI – \$325M)
- 2016 Estimate (President’s Budget): \$990,788,000 (AFRI – \$450M)
- House 2016 Appropriations Committee: \$781,510,000 (AFRI – \$335M)
- Senate 2016 Appropriations Committee: \$791,096,000 (AFRI – \$325M)

Please see the full documents here:

- House, Appropriations Committee Passed, FY16 Agriculture Appropriations Bill
- Senate, Appropriations Committee Passed, FY16 Agriculture Appropriations Bill
- President’s Request for FY16

Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis

Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis (FASA) stakeholders depend on the reliable production of timely, accurate, and objective food, agricultural, rural economic, and resource statistics and market information. FASA supports the maintenance and growth of agriculture, food, and resource statistics and analysis.

The USDA produces a vast amount of data and information that directly inform decisions by food and agricultural market participants, agricultural input and food businesses, banks and other credit institutions and those who make food, farm, economic development, and trade policy. American agriculture, rural America, food, and resource-based industries depend on the reliable production of timely, accurate, and objective food, agricultural, rural economic, and resource statistics and market information. FASA supports the maintenance and growth of agriculture, food, and resource statistics, data, and analysis through the USDA Research, Education and Economics Mission Area (USDA REE), as well as other sources in the USDA portfolio.

During the FY16 budget and appropriations discussion, FASA sent two letters to the House and Senate. Please see all of the letters sent [here](#). If you know of an organization or company interested in joining FASA, please have them contact agricultural.statistics@gmail.com. FASA seeks to expand! Thank you.

AAEA Government Relations and Policy Outreach at the AAEA Meetings in San Francisco

- **Government Relations Breakfast, July 26, 8:00 AM–10:00 AM PT, Marriott Marquis, Pacific I**

At the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 26 at the San Francisco Marriott Marquis in the Pacific I, the Blue Ribbon Expert Panels and AAEA section leaders are invited to attend a breakfast. The breakfast will include a presentation from Robin Schoen, the Director of the National Academies of Sciences' Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources. The group will be discussing the Agricultural and Applied Economics 2025 Priorities and Solutions Project which C-FARE will facilitate in 2015 – 2016. [Please RSVP for the event.](#) *The new AAEA Government Relations Committee and C-FARE have invited Robin to attend the AAEA Meetings. If there are events that

you'd like Robin to be aware of, please let Caron, the C-FARE Executive Director know at cgala@cfare.org. Thank you.

- [*Improving the Impact of Your Work through Outreach, Saturday, July 25, 1:00 pm – 5:00 PM PT*](#)
Come join Cheryl Wachenheim, member of the AAEA Outreach Committee, to learn more about avenues to share the results of your work including press releases, blogs, and social media.
- [*Keys to Responding Successfully to Funding Opportunities for Economics: Look, Read, Respond*](#)
Tuesday, July 28, 9:45 AM – 11:15 AM PT (Senior Section Joint with AEM)
Program Leaders, Robbin Shoemaker (USDA NIFA), and Nancy Lutz (NSF SBE) will be speaking.

Research Funding Opportunities

NSF Economic Program

The standing programs in SBE (including MMS, Economics, Sociology, and GSS) no longer will be accepting Census Research Data Center (RDC) proposals into the programs for review. NSF expects to issue a separate solicitation for Census RDCs during Fiscal Year 2015. Interested investigators are encouraged to check the NSF website for updates. Nancy A. Lutz, –Program Director – nlutz@nsf.gov
Full Proposal Target Date: August 18, 2015

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 15
July 2015

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

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