

AAEA News

AAEA Strategic Plan Update

The AAEA Board appreciates all of the [Strategic Plan](#) feedback and comments submitted by AAEA members. If you missed the link from Dawn's Presidential Column a couple of weeks ago, the updated Strategic Plan can be found on the AAEA website. This is a working document and will be re-visited every 5 years.

Invited Paper Sessions

2021 Call for Proposals

AAEA welcomes proposals for Invited Paper sessions for the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. Papers in these Invited Paper sessions may be published in the *Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy (AEPP)* in March 2022, subject to review. Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using the online submission system by **Thursday, December 3, 2020**. The [abstract system](#) is now open.

The most successful invited papers frame new areas of research, provide a systematic review of an existing area, or offer a novel perspective.

Proposed session formats must include either two papers with two discussants or three papers with one discussant. Four paper sessions will not be considered.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- The proposed session supports the objective of the Association to further the development and dissemination of systematic knowledge of agricultural and applied economics;
- The importance of the session is well-justified;
- The proposed papers are timely and the topics are likely to generate meaningful discussion during the presentation, as well as interest in a published version;
- It is likely that the session format will be conducive to a clear, focused, and informative presentation of the topics proposed;
- The session theme and paper topics are not repetitive of themes and/or topics previously addressed in Invited Paper sessions;
- The set of sessions will appeal to a broad spectrum of the membership.

Proposals should include session title and rationale, two-page abstracts and titles for each proposed presentation, and names and contact information of authors, discussants, and moderators.

The invited papers should be completed by **Thursday, April 8, 2021**. These completed versions will be reviewed by the invited paper sessions committee, and feedback to improve the papers will be provided to the author(s). Final versions of the invited papers must be submitted to AAEA by **Thursday, May 20, 2021**. If the authors wish the invited paper to be reviewed for publication in the *AEPP*, it should also be submitted to the *AEPP* Editors via Editorial Express by **Wednesday, August 25, 2021**.

If you have any questions about submitting an Invited Paper session proposal, please contact Mary Annen at mannen@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Case Studies

2021 Call for Proposals

AAEA welcomes proposals for Case Studies for the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. Cases in this Invited Paper session may be published in the *Applied Economics Teaching Resources (AETR)* in January 2022, subject to review. Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using AAEA's online submission system by **Thursday, December 3, 2020**. The [abstract system](#) is now open.

Proposals are requested for case studies that show how the application of economic principles to decision making in the public and/or private sectors leads to better decisions. Any topic area that illustrates the application of economic principles is acceptable. Topic areas focusing on emerging issues such as: renewable ingredients, energy economics, food safety, and company environmental policies (e.g., green scorecard) are encouraged.

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Deals with a problem that has a high level of importance/interest/relevancy to members of AAEA
- Clear and concise teaching objective(s) and target audience(s) (e.g. undergraduate students, graduate students, extension audiences)
- Case summary that presents solutions and explanations of how the learning objectives are realized
- Leads to a better understanding of how the application of economic principles improves decision making
- A general description of the teaching plan for presenting the case to include expected student use of reference materials

Proposals should include case title, names, contact information of the authors, and a case outline that covers the company or situation profiled, as well as a detailed outline for the case study. The outline should be 3-5 pages in length and a maximum of 2,000 words. The proposal must also contain an outline and ideas for a teaching note, although the teaching note will not be published with the case. Of the cases submitted, three winning case submissions will be accepted for presentation at the AAEA meetings by **March 11, 2021**.

Selected case studies (with teaching note when applicable) should be completed by **Thursday, April 8, 2021**. These completed versions will be reviewed by the invited case study committee, and feedback to improve the cases will be provided to the author(s). Final versions of the cases must be submitted to AAEA by **Thursday, May 20, 2021**. If the authors wish the case study to be reviewed for publication in the *AETR*, it should also be submitted to the *AETR* Editor by **Thursday, May 20, 2021**. Accepted papers will carry a footnote that indicates they were subject to an expedited review process.

Examples of appropriate cases can be found in the agricultural and applied economics literature including the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (issues 94 (2) and 93 (2)), *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review* and the *Journal of the Food Distribution Research Society*. There are many ways to write a case. One set of guidelines for decision cases can be found at: <https://www.ifama.org/Case-Study-Essentials>.

If you have any questions about submitting a Case Study Proposal, please contact Hattie Salzman at hsalzman@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Track Sessions sponsored by AAEA Sections**2021 Call for Proposals**

The AAEA Executive Board invites Track Session proposals for the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. Initial proposals need to be submitted by **Thursday, December 3, 2020**, to Samantha Bilgrien at sbilgrien@aaea.org. Final, detailed submissions associated with each session are due by **March 24, 2021**. The AAEA Business Office will work with each Section that submits proposals on their final submission.

Tracks are a set of multiple sessions submitted by AAEA Sections, scheduled throughout the meeting and devoted to a common interest area or topic. The AAEA President determines the number of sessions allocated to each section. All Section leaders have been notified of their 2021 allocations.

Section leaders are responsible for managing and submitting Track Session proposals. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for a Track Session, please contact the chair of the Section for more information about the session topics that they are seeking. Proposals submitted to the AAEA Business Office by an individual will be referred back to the Section for approval and official submission.

Specific Track Sessions can also be considered as Invited Paper sessions. These sessions need to be submitted through the abstract submission system as an Invited Paper session (see the call for Invited Paper Sessions for more information), and included with the initial Track Session proposals due in December, with an indication that it has also been submitted as an Invited Paper Session. If the proposed Invited Paper session is not accepted, it will still be included as a traditional Track Session.

Please contact Samantha Bilgrien at sbilgrien@aaea.org or (414) 918-3190 if you have any other questions about submitting or participating in a Track Session.

Call for Proposals:**2021 Pre- and Post-conference Workshops**

The AAEA Executive Board invites proposals for Pre- and Post-conference Workshops at the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. The deadline for proposals is **Thursday, December 3**. Selections will be finalized at the AAEA Executive Board meeting in early January and organizers will be notified soon thereafter by the AAEA President.

Submissions are judged on the merits of the proposal and the space and time available at the Annual Meeting. Organizers will work with the AAEA Business Office to develop a budget for final approval at the January Board meeting.

Proposals should be submitted using the Pre- and Post-conference Workshop Proposal form available on the AAEA website, <https://www.aaea.org/meetings>, Title of proposed session and the proposed date and time that the workshop would take place (potential dates include **Saturday, July 31, and Wednesday, August 4**)

1. Objectives of the workshop, as well as the timeliness of the subject and why the content of the workshop is relevant to AAEA members/meeting attendees
2. Potential speakers, presenters, or panel members, and the total time required for these presentations.
3. Intended audience and expected attendance at the workshop
4. Contact information for organizers in charge of overall development and coordination (complete addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses)

5. Complete budget information, which includes: financial support expected speaker travel expenses, stipends, and honoraria, catering needs, administrative fees, and other income and costs. Detailed information will be needed, including any catering requests (e.g. boxed lunches, buffet, coffee breaks, etc.), so that a registration fee for the workshop can be determined
6. Any requests for membership and/or registration fee waivers that may be required in order to properly conduct the workshop
7. Any special software or electronic needs, including if the attendees will be required to bring a laptop

Incomplete proposals cannot be considered. Please include as much information as needed when submitting; there is no minimum or maximum length for the proposal.

Submit proposals using the Pre- and Post-conference Workshop Proposal form available on the [AAEA website](https://www.aaea.org/meetings), <https://www.aaea.org/meetings> by Thursday, December 3.

If you have any questions about submitting a proposal, please contact Mary Annen at mannen@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Selected Presentation Papers and Posters

2021 Call for Proposals

AAEA seeks submissions for Selected Presentations for the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. Selected Presentations are a submission category that represents both Selected Papers and Selected Posters. All submissions are reviewed and accepted together, and only after acceptance are the submissions designated as a paper or poster. At the time of submission, individuals will have the option for their submission to be considered as a poster only. There is no paper only option.

Submissions for Selected Presentations must include a two-page, single-spaced abstract that provides a clear explanation of what will be presented at the Annual Meeting. Presenting author and co-authors should include in this abstract a discussion of the relevance of the topic, research methodology, and potential for generating discussion during the meeting. Please *do not include your name or contact information in the abstract file.*

Tips for selecting a Subject Code for your abstract

When submitting your paper to the abstract system you will need to select a subject code. The subject code you select is the category your paper will be grouped in when being reviewed based on a common topic. If accepted, sessions are comprised of abstracts with the same subject codes. To assist you with selecting a subject code the Selected Presentations Committee created [keywords for each of the subject codes](#). We recommend you refer to the **keywords for subject codes** to help you determine the subject code for your submission.

Abstracts must be received by **Wednesday, January 20, 2021 11:59 PM CST**, and should be submitted using AAEA's online [Abstract Management System](#). Material previously presented at other meetings cannot be accepted, and the submitting author will be asked to verify that the material has not been presented elsewhere. When entering the title of your abstract, please be sure to submit it as you would like it to appear in the program – with proper capitalization and punctuation.

Review Process

All submissions will be subjected to a common, double-blind review process. After the review process has been completed, topic leaders will construct coherent Selected Paper Sessions and Lightning Sessions based on a common topic. All remaining accepted presentations will be assigned as a poster. Presentation proposal acceptance notifications will be sent via email to presenters in March. Emails may be received in spam folders. Should you not find an email by mid-April, please feel free to contact the AAEA Business Office at info@aaea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Posters

Poster presenters should be available during their assigned interval during the meeting for questions and discussion. The event program and mobile app will list the poster titles, authors, locations, and presentation time. *Poster presenters must submit a PDF version of their poster to the AAEA submission site by May 20, 2021 11:59 PM CST. A cover page must be included* before uploading. Please prepare a Cover Page using [this template](#) and append it to your pdf file before uploading. Please keep submissions under 4 MB. AAEA will upload these posters to the AgEcon Search. Posters that miss this deadline will be withdrawn from the program.

Selected Paper Sessions and Lightning Sessions

Up to 8 papers are included in a 90-minute Lightning Session, and up to 4 papers are included in a 90-minute Selected Paper Session. Therefore, each paper presentation in a Lightning Session is allotted 9 minutes, with 7 minutes to present and 2 minutes for discussion. Likewise, each presentation in a Selected Paper Session is allotted 20 minutes, with 15 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion.

Presenters of Selected Papers must submit a full version of their paper to the AAEA submission site by May 20, 2021 11:59 PM CST. A cover page must be included before uploading. Please prepare a Cover Page using [this template](#) and append it to your pdf file before uploading. Please keep submissions under 4 MB. AAEA will upload these papers to the AgEcon Search. Papers that miss this deadline will be withdrawn from the program. The full version of the paper has no length limitations, but less than 25 pages is preferred. Double-spaced, 8.5 by 11-inch, single-sided format is requested. Please follow the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics style guidelines*, with the exception of the single table/figure per page convention.

[Abstract Management Site](#)

Organized Symposia

2021 Call for Proposals

AAEA seeks submissions for Organized Symposia for the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. Proposals are due by **Wednesday, January 20, 2021**, and should be submitted using AAEA's online submission system. The [abstract system](#) is now open.

Organized Symposium sessions highlight ideas or works-in-progress on a topic involving cooperative or competing efforts by two or more panelists. Symposia may involve panel discussions of prepared questions, debates, roundtable meetings, or other formats. Formal paper presentations are discouraged, nonetheless if such presentations are proposed, the organizer should explain how they will fit into a tightly coherent theme. In all cases, at least half of the session time should be reserved for discussion among the panelists and between the panelists and the audience.

Symposia may offer discussions of policy issues, research methods, emerging research results, teaching or outreach topics, issues in professional organization, or other matters. Proposals should include: session title, session rationale, names and contact information for the organizer and other participants, and a description of the symposium format that includes plans for discussion.

At least one proposer for the organized symposium must be a member of AAEA, and all presenters, speakers, and/or discussants at the Annual Meeting must be members of AAEA and registered for the Annual Meeting by **Thursday, May 20, 2021**.

If you have any questions about submitting an Organized Symposia session proposal, please contact Mary Annen at mannen@aea.org or at (414) 918-3190.

Call for CWAE Track Sessions

CWAE invites paper submissions for our track sessions at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. This year the focus will be a bit different from previous years. In honor of CWAE's 40-year legacy, we are editing a special issue at Applied Economics Perspectives & Policy. AEPP provides a "forum to address contemporary and emerging policy issues within an economic framework that informs the decision-making and policy-making community." Although we are open to the topic and approach, we would like to accept some papers that touch on the status of applied female economists professionally, or on issues with specific implications for women in terms of policy responses, the agricultural sector, the environment, and/or economic development.

The selected papers will be presented in two of our tracked sessions at the AAEA 2021, as well as published in the AEPP special issue, subject to expedited peer review. We are asking applicants to submit full papers by 11:59 p.m. PST on Monday, November 25 to aea.cwae@gmail.com. Notifications will be provided no later than December 3. Note: We will not consider abstracts. Please do not submit your paper under this call if you do not want it to be featured in the CWAE special issue. At least one author must be a member of CWAE.

Please contact Valerie Mueller, CWAE Chair-Elect at (vmuelle1@asu.edu), if you have any questions.

2021 AAEA Mentoring Research Workshop

Rescheduled dates: May 26-28, 2021

Chicago, IL with a Registration Fee: \$40

All previously submitted applications will be held for the new May dates. We will also accept additional applications.

The objective of this workshop is mentor junior faculty (less than 5 years) to transition to agricultural and applied economic departments by providing an orientation to expectations for research, teaching and outreach, and to develop effective strategies for success. The workshop will focus on constructively criticizing research in progress. Mentoring will include networking, information about the profession, and discussion of current research trends and topic areas.

Mentees will be divided into small groups assigned to one or more mentors. Small group sessions will involve short research presentation by each mentee followed by feedback on their research by the group.

To apply for this workshop, submit a 250–word description of motivations for participating and desires for learning outcomes via email to mannen@aaea.org. If you have any questions, contact Mary Annen.

All events will take place at:

[University Club of Chicago](#)

76 East Monroe Street

Chicago, IL 60603

The Hotel Room Block has been secured at:

The Palmer House a Hilton Hotel

17 East Monroe Street

Chicago, IL 60603

Reservation link

<https://book.passkey.com/go/AAEAMRW2021>

Room Rate: \$179, Or call reservations at (877) 865–5321

and refer to group code: AAEA

Call for Applications

Editorship of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*

Editorship appointments for the American Journal of Agricultural Economics are staggered such that two new appointments are made every two years. The AAEA Board now seeks a diverse group of applicants for two editors to be appointed for a four–year term, beginning in January 2022. Each editor handles approximately one–fourth of the submitted manuscripts and makes independent editorial decisions on these submissions. The degree to which candidate’s expertise complements that of the continuing editors, Amy Ando and Marc Bellemare, will be considered in the selection process.

In addition, editors share the administrative responsibilities of managing the AJAE. Each editor should plan to dedicate 25 to 40 percent of his/her time to AJAE editorial duties. AAEA will provide financial assistance to defray some portion of the editors’ time and most expenses.

Transition Timing

The AAEA Board will make final selections by early 2021. The new editors should be prepared to begin the transition process at the 2021 AAEA Annual Meeting in Austin, TX, August 1–3, 2021 and expect to be fully engaged in editorial duties by January 1, 2022. Interested candidates can consult the journal website for information on the journal at: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/14678276>.

Please note that all editors need to maintain their AAEA membership throughout their service to the journal.

Applications

Applications should include:

- A brief statement expressing interest which should include applicant’s areas of expertise and editorial philosophy for the AJAE,
- curriculum vitae (including descriptions of previous editorial work),
- Statements of administrative support from the candidate’s department chair, dean or other appropriate administrative officer.

Applications should be sent electronically via PDF to Kristen McGuire, Executive Director, at kmcguire@aaea.org by **November 30, 2020**. Nominations of potentially interested candidates who can then be solicited for their materials are also welcome.

AEPP Working Collection of Articles on COVID-19

These articles will appear in an upcoming special issue on COVID-19. Articles will be added to the collection as they publish online ahead of the special issue publication in early 2021.

View the collection here: [https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)2040-5804.special-collection-on-covid-19](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)2040-5804.special-collection-on-covid-19)

Call for Papers**Special Issue on 'Replications in Agricultural Economics' in *AEPP***

An important quality characteristic of scientific research is that it is falsifiable and replicable. If findings from scientific articles are not replicable or are not attempted to be falsified, this renders conclusions less reliable. This is especially relevant in the field of agricultural economics research, where scientific results are frequently used to design or modify policies. Replication studies offer the potential to gain new insights from answering previously answered research questions by (1) applying the same or similar methods to other data sets or (2) applying alternative or more appropriate (new) methods to existing data sets or modeling frameworks. This contributes to the assessment of the robustness of earlier research findings

We invite submissions to a special issue on 'Replications in Agricultural Economics' in the journal *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy (AEPP)*. With this special issue, we aim to initiate a new research stream in agricultural economics and foster the use of replication as structural element of our discipline.

The primary purpose of a replication is to confirm the validity of a study previously published in a leading journal in the field of agricultural economics. We consider replications of all types of articles, e.g., econometric analysis, experimental work, as well as, optimization and simulation models. Considered replication studies shall preferably consist of two parts:

In the first part, key findings from the original study shall be reproduced. This should be based on a data set, experiment, or model that is identical to the original study. If the original results cannot be exactly reproduced, then the replicating researcher is required to contact the original author to reconcile any differences. All communication (emails etc.) on this exchange should be submitted to the journal.

In the second part, further robustness checks on the above-generated findings shall be provided. This can include, for example, alternative variable specifications, new (more recent, from another context etc.) data, an alternative experimental set-up, alternative estimation procedures, other optimization or simulation models, or other specifications of these models. Authors need to clarify how the presented analysis constitutes a replication of previous research.

If the experimental instructions, data sets or models that were used in the replicated study are unavailable, researchers should use experimental instructions, data sets or models that are as similar as possible to those in the replicated study (as substitute for the first part) and then apply a broad range of robustness checks in the second part.

Both confirming and disconfirming replications will be published. The main criterion for assessment of the replication is a high standard of the methodological approach and clarity. Replication articles are full-length articles. Multiple replications of an original article by different replicating authors can be published.

A two-tier selection procedure will be used for this special issue: First, researchers who are interested in contributing to the special issue shall submit a short (ca. 2 pages) concept note describing the envisioned content and approach by January 15, 2021. The guest editors will provide feedback on the submitted concept notes to support researchers, as well as, to enable an efficient submission process.

Full papers need to be submitted by **January 15, 2022**. After an editorial pre-screening, the submitted papers will be sent to the original author(s) asking for feedback AND sent to at least one guest editor and one anonymous reviewer (which can be the author of another replication study for the special issue) for reviews. The guest editors will accept the paper for publication in the special issue if the analyses are conducted with methodological rigor, the analysis and the results are presented in a clear (and reproducible) way, and the paper is in line with the originally submitted concept note and the guest editors' feedback on the concept note. If the decision is to publish, the original author(s) are invited to submit a new reply in response to the final revised version which will be published as well if it is written in a clear and factual way. Detailed instructions for preparing and submitting concept notes are given on the following page. Instructions for the full papers will be sent along with the feedback on the concept notes.

Guest editors are Robert Finger, ETH Zürich, Switzerland; Carola Grebitus, Arizona State University, USA; and Arne Henningsen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

If the COVID-19 pandemic continues for a longer period of time and, thus, prevents researchers from conducting or replicating lab experiments or surveys, an extension of the submission deadline will be considered.

Call for Papers

Special Issue, "Agricultural and Applied Economics and Inequity and Discrimination Faced by African Americans in the United States"

Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy

The editors of AEPP invite authors to submit articles for a special issue on inequities and discrimination faced by African Americans in the United States related to topics within agricultural and applied economics. AEPP publishes research related to agriculture; animal, plant, and human health; energy; environment; food and consumer behavior; international development; natural hazards, natural resources; population and migration; and regional and rural development. In this Special Issue, we are particularly interested in the intersection of these topics with inequities and discrimination faced by African Americans. Possible topics for papers in this issue include, but are not limited to:

1. Implications of the Pigford v. Glickman suit and related cases on Black farmer land loss
2. Funding differences in experiment stations and extension systems between 1862 and 1890 institutions and impacts on African American outcomes related to food and agriculture
3. Evaluation of differences in intergenerational mobility of African American students between 1890 and 1862 institutions
4. Implications of agricultural land loss on present-day wealth and wealth-related disparities
5. Racial disparities, property values, and Black and white farmers in rural America
6. Disparities in federal and state funding at 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Specifically, inequality in the distribution of funding support for research, teaching, and 4-H programs at 1890 institutions

7. Disparities by race in human capital development, income inequality, family/community resiliency, or disaster preparedness and their impacts on population and migration and/or rural and regional development, with a particular focus on the African American experience
8. Disparities by race in food security, with a particular focus on the African American experience
9. Black farmers' access to financial capital
10. Examination of alternative farm policy frameworks that continue systemic racism with government support and emergency payments. Black farmer participation levels in local food systems could be assessed in this context.

If you are interested in contributing to the special issue, please submit your paper to our online submission system by **January 16, 2022**. General instructions for submitting to AEPP can be found here. Please select that you are submitting to the Agricultural and Applied Economics and Inequity and Discrimination Faced by African Americans in the United States special issue when selecting submission type.

Composition of the Issue

1. Invited versus Open Call: The issue will contain a mix of invited papers and papers received in response to this open call.
2. Perspectives versus Original Research Papers: We are interested in publishing both perspectives articles and original research articles in this special issue.
3. Timeline: Journal submission deadline: **January 16, 2022**

Communication

Questions about the special issue including questions related to fit of potential submissions can be directed to Mindy Mallory (mllmallor@purdue.edu).

Additional Information

Certainly, African Americans in the United States are not the only group to face inequities and discrimination related to topics in agricultural and applied economics. Future special issues will be organized around inequities and discrimination faced by other groups.

(WEBINAR)The Meatless Revolution: Panel with Industry Experts

AAEA Webinar (Co-sponsored by FAMPS and AEM)

Please note the date and time have not been determined. Notifications and a calendar invitation will be sent out when a date has been determined.

Overview

The meat sector is a well-established market, with a typical American consuming over 200 pounds of meat (either beef, chicken, and/or pork) per year. However, the growing demand for alternative proteins (e.g., plant-based, lab-grown) has captured the attention of investors, the media, and consumers. Plant-based "meats" are not only targeted toward vegans and vegetarians, but also consumers who do not subscribe to a specific diet, as plant-based meat companies attempt to mimic the look, feel, and taste of conventional meat-based products. Major food retail chains and fast food restaurants, such as Carl's Jr., Q'doba, and Burger King, are bucking the trend and have all introduced plant-based alternatives as a substitute to menu favorites. Additionally, new technologies to produce lab-grown meat, such as those derived from chicken feathers, are on the frontier. Infusions of investments by venture capital and large companies are being made, despite the

fact that, historically, many investments made in growing food startup companies have ended up being divested at a loss.

Nevertheless, the controversy surrounding plant-based vs. lab-grown vs. the traditional meat sector has many wondering how the food system will evolve in this new choice landscape. This symposium brings together both sides of the conversation – the alternative and the traditional meat sectors – to discuss the meatless craze that has swept the nation and the broader implications for the food system.

Expected Outcomes

The goal of the panel is to engage in topical discussions on relevant challenges and opportunities that the traditional and non-traditional protein sectors face, and discuss ways in which partnering with researchers would offer synergies with industry objectives. Participants will leave with information on data resources that may be useful for policy relevant analysis.

Who Should Attend

We encourage all members of AAEEA as well as non-members to attend, including but not limited to agricultural economics, public policy experts, industry stakeholders, educators, chefs, and health care experts.

Webinar Format

The Webinar is entirely Q&A based. Prior to the panel, we will solicit questions to ask the panelists and pick, among them, four to six questions to guide the discussion. **Please go to [THIS SURVEY](#)** to vote on which questions you would like to ask the panelists.

Example questions include:

- How close are the alternative protein options to mimicking the nutrient profile of alternative meat options when compared to regular meat?
- What marketing campaigns exist to inform or persuade pro-meat consumers to purchase plant-based alternatives?
- How does cost factor into shoppers' purchasing decisions, specifically concerning the higher price tag of alternatives?
- What expectations do you have regarding the demand for meat alternatives and how might this factor into product pricing?
- How long do you foresee it taking the lab-grown and plant-based industry to not only mimic the taste of meat on the market, but exceed what consumers are currently used to?
- Who are the major players and what are the products they offer, either currently or in the near future?
- With all of the additives required to achieve plant-based meat, could you describe the process with respect to FDA standards and labeling requirements?
- In what ways, if any, are environmental policies shaping the acceleration of plant-based alternatives? How might you expect this to change over the next five to ten years, e.g., under different administrations?

Industry Speakers

Paul Shapiro is the author of the national bestseller *Clean Meat: How Growing Meat Without Animals Will Revolutionize Dinner and the World*, a four-time TEDx speaker, and the host of the Business for Good Podcast. Shapiro is the CEO of The Better Meat Co., a company whose goal is to help meat producers improve

sustainability by blending in the start-up's plant-based proteins in their ground meat products. Prior to publishing *Clean Meat*, he was known for being an animal protection advocate, both as the founder of Animal Outlook (formerly Compassion Over Killing) and a Vice President at the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Monty Staggs is the Chief Executive Officer of Southwest Foodservice Excellence (SFE), a food manufacturing and distribution company servicing K-12 schools across the U.S., where he has been since 2012. SFE's mission is to bring an exceptional dining experience to K-12 students through custom, chef driven and culinary-based district partnerships. Staggs began his career as a chef in fine dining, serving as Executive Chef in critically acclaimed restaurants in Miami, Houston, and Los Angeles, and later in corporate research and development for fast-growing national restaurant chains, driving their Menu Master Award Winning concepts across the United States and internationally. Staggs has worked with the nation's largest natural and organic beef producers where he held positions of VP of Foodservice Sales, Corporate Executive Chef, and VP of Prepared Foods Innovation. Staggs graduated from Johnson and Wales University Summa Cum Laude graduate and was the recipient of the distinguished President's Trophy.

Dean Klahr serves as Director of the Stockgrowers Division at the Kansas Livestock Association. Klahr concentrates his efforts on addressing issues that influence the association's grass-based membership through legislative and regulatory efforts, along with the coordination of educational programs. Klahr joined KLA in the summer of 2019. He comes to the association with a diverse agricultural background, having served in various segments of the industry. While also being actively involved in his family's small cow-calf and traditional crop operation, he has gained experience in the fields of soil conservation, food manufacturing, feedlot, agricultural sales and marketing. Klahr is a graduate of Kansas State University's College of Agriculture, where he earned his B.S. in Animal Sciences & Industry.

Michael Nepveux serves as an Economist at the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF). His issue portfolio consists of livestock and dairy markets, farm bill and federal crop insurance, renewable fuels, and hemp issues. AFBF is the nation's largest organization representing farmers and ranchers. AFBF is the unified national voice of agriculture, working through our grassroots organizations to enhance and strengthen the lives of rural Americans and to build strong, prosperous agricultural communities. Nepveux joined the American Farm Bureau Federation as an economist in May of 2018. He comes to AFBF from Informa Economics Agribusiness Group, where he was an analyst charged with conducting market, policy and economic research and analysis in several fields including agriculture, agricultural risk management, transportation and renewable energy. His prior experience also includes placements with the Agriculture Department's Foreign Agricultural Service and the House Agriculture Committee. Nepveux earned a bachelor's degree in agribusiness and economics and a master's degree in agricultural economics, both from Texas A&M University.

AAFA at ASSA 2021

2021 AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting will be VIRTUAL

Given recent events, continued uncertainties, current meeting/travel restrictions related to the potential spread of COVID-19, and the rising number of cases, we regret to announce that the Association's leadership has made the difficult decision not to hold the [2021 ASSA Annual Meeting](#) in person. The safety risks posed by

the COVID-19 pandemic has made it impossible to plan, prepare for, and hold an in-person event as expected.

While not holding an in-person meeting will diminish the reunions, receptions, and other networking opportunities that occur in a face-to-face setting, the AEA is excited to announce that preparations are underway for a **VIRTUAL 2021 AEA/ASSA Annual Meeting**. Session and paper submissions have been strong and we are currently curating a program that will be both interesting and stimulating – especially in the times through which we are living. The virtual meeting will be held on January 3 – 5, 2021 as planned and will include the usual offering of over 500 scientific sessions. Registration will open in September and the registration fee will be set to cover the costs of holding the virtual meeting. Stay tuned for more details at <https://www.aeaweb.org/conference/>.

This has been a unprecedented year and the AEA leadership believes that, despite the departure from normal circumstances, we will continue to have an engaging and successful 2021 AEA/ASSA Meeting. We look forward to seeing you in person in 2022 when we will be together again in Boston.

If you have any questions, please email ASSA@vanderbilt.edu.

AAEA Sessions

Sunday, January 3

[The COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights from Agricultural Economists](#) (A1)

12:15 PM – 2:15 PM (EST)

Chair: Craig Gundersen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

[Contracting in Agriculture](#) (A1)

3:45 PM – 5:45 PM (EST)

Chair: Clark Lundberg, San Diego State University

Monday, January 4

[Big Data and Near-Real-Time Monitoring of Food Emergencies](#) (A1)

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EST)

Chair: Rob Vos, International Food Policy Research Institute

[Food Quality Inspection, Certification, and Disclosure](#) (A1)

3:45 PM – 5:45 PM (EST)

Chair: John Bovay, Virginia Tech

Tuesday, January 5

[The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Economies](#) (A1)

12:15 PM – 2:15 PM (EST)

Chair: Heather Stephens, West Virginia University

Other News

Call for special issue submissions to *Agricultural Finance Review*

Special Issue Topic: Nontraditional Credit in the U.S. Farm Economy

In cooperation with *USDA, Economic Research Service*

We are extending the deadline for abstract submissions for the special issue of the AFR to **November 8** (email to jifft@ksu.edu or brewer94@purdue.edu). Other details are below and the updated call for papers is attached. A few key details:

1. 500–word abstract submission **by November 8** is necessary to be eligible for an honorarium. We will select up to 12 abstracts to invite for full submission based on both quality **and** how closely they adhere to the objectives of the special issue (see below and attached).
2. Full papers are due on **June 1**. Papers that missed the Nov 8 abstract deadline can still be submitted, but will **not** be eligible for an honorarium and may be subject to capacity considerations.
3. All papers in the special issue *will undergo peer review*; submitting an abstract and being invited to submit a full paper is a necessary but not sufficient condition for receiving an honorarium.

Many lending institutions provide credit to the agricultural sector, including the Farm Credit System, commercial banks, cooperative lenders, and the USDA's Farm Service Agency. In addition, farms obtain credit through a variety of "nontraditional lenders," including input suppliers, implement dealers, insurance companies, private equity firms, and others. Today, nontraditional lenders likely provide up to 20 percent of all credit to production agriculture, and the role of these lenders is likely to increase in the future. As farm operating margins have declined and existing working capital reserves have diminished, farmers' demand for credit has increased in recent years and is expected to rise further. Yet, at the same time, tighter operating margins signal higher risk of default, and traditional lenders may face pressure to increase the terms and costs of borrowing. This means a significant portion of agricultural credit is held by institutions that are not well studied.

This special issue of *Agricultural Finance Review* will feature papers that provide a *better understanding of the scope, significance, and risk profile of nontraditional lenders in the agricultural sector*. The aim of the special issue is to collect a cohesive set of applied agricultural finance papers that address the dearth of publicly available information and research on nontraditional finance in U.S. agriculture. As such, we invite papers that either (1) follow guidelines for standard AFR submissions, or (2) provide novel data and insights that directly inform future research in this area. We expect this special issue will be of great interest to producers, the agribusiness industry, financial regulators, and traditional lenders. As such, we have collaborated with the USDA Economic Research Service to provide an honorarium of \$5,000 for accepted papers.

We welcome studies related to farm loans that are **not** originated at commercial banks or Farm Credit System lenders or public agencies such as the Farm Service Agency. Relevant areas of research may include, but are not restricted to:

1. Volume and trends for nontraditional lending; analysis of the degree to which lending from nontraditional lenders is accounted for in official statistics or measures of farm sector financial health,
2. Analysis of business strategies used by nontraditional lenders and/or how nontraditional lending is regulated; differences from traditional lenders,
3. Assessment of demand for nontraditional credit; financial health of producers that use nontraditional lending as a source of credit,
4. Assessment of credit supply risk: risk of the ag lending portfolio of nontraditional lenders, treatment under Chapter 12, etc.
5. Analysis of nontraditional lending using state or regional farm management datasets, industry data, etc.,

6. Analysis of lending practices and lenders used by farms that have been historically excluded from traditional lending institutions, including minority farmers.

To ensure a cohesive set of articles, we request a short abstract of 500 words or less by November 8, 2020. The abstract should establish why the study would make an important contribution to this special issue and summarize the proposed methodology. The authors of up to 12 abstracts will be invited to submit a full article (notification will be mid-December 2020) and *this step is required for eligibility for an honorarium*. Full articles must be submitted by June 1, 2021 for review. Articles should be between 3,000 and 9,000 words in length and must be of sufficient quality to meet *AFR* standards after one round of expedited review and revision. We include below a detailed timeline to assist in planning work on prospective submissions.

If you have any questions regarding the call for papers, please do not hesitate to contact the guest editorial team: Brady Brewer (brewer94@purdue.edu) and Jennifer Ifft (jiff@ksu.edu)

Timeline for submission and possible publication in *AFR*

Date	Item due
Nov 8, 2020	Letter of interest (in the body of your email is ideal) and abstract due via email to guest editor: jiff@ksu.edu
Dec 15, 2020	Invitations to submit a paper for the special issue will be sent for selected papers
June 1, 2021	Full submission due. Please submit using Emerald Insight and in the "Special Instructions" list "Nontraditional Credit in U.S. Agriculture"
July 15, 2021	Reviews back to authors
August 15, 2021	Resubmission due
September 15, 2021	Final decision
October 15, 2021	Full issue available online

AARES 2021

The AARES 2021 conference will take place February 8–12, 2021.

Due to the COVID–19 Pandemic AARES has decided to hold the 2021 conference virtually, via online platform. It is envisaged that majority of online sessions will be 'live' so that presenters and participants can interact more directly. Recordings of sessions will be available for later viewing. Conference presentations will be held from 9 to 12th February.

The pre-conference workshops are planned to take place via live-streamed online sessions on February 8, 2021.

To ask a question of the Local Organizing Committee, please go to the [Contact page](#). To learn more about the AARES 2021 conference go to: <https://aares2021.org/>

NEW International Society for Efficiency and Productivity Analysis

The mission of the Society is to extend, mutatis mutandis, the General Scope of the Journal of Productivity Analysis (<http://www.springer.com/economics/microeconomics/journal/11123>). The Society will promote and diffuse the study of theoretical and applied research addressing the measurement, analysis, and improvements in productivity and its components, particularly innovation and efficiency. It will be a Society that supports and fosters research that uses theory and empirical techniques to the measurement of productivity and sets forth implications for managerial strategies and public policy to enhance productivity. The Society's broad scope spans economics, management sciences, operations research, and business and public administration. A partial list of topics includes productivity theory, organizational design, index number theory, and related foundations of productivity analysis, research on computational methods employed in productivity analysis and empirical research based on data at all levels of aggregation.

The Society will facilitate the following activities, among possibly others as the Society evolves:

1. Working papers from the Society as well as other outlets from other universities and research centers engaging in productivity research;
2. Information about upcoming conferences;
3. Communication via our email list with the productivity and efficiency and productivity community;
4. Access to job filings from potential academic and nonacademic employers;
5. Short courses that speak to our research interests;
6. Announcements (and calls for submissions) concerning special issues of the JPA and of Springer volumes on productivity and efficiency.
7. Calls for small grant submission to encourage workshops and collaborative efforts across research groups and across research centers that focus on productivity and efficiency;
8. Information about consulting possibilities, and international and domestic calls for proposals on productivity and efficiency research.

The Society will be formally linked to our three international meetings in terms of planning and advertising and will also be responsible for coordinating other ad hoc conferences and new international ones as the need arises. A conference that would be held in Central and South America is one such conference that may be organized to represent scholars and policy issues from that region of the world.

An Affiliation agreement with Springer Nature has been negotiated that provides members of the Society with electronic subscriptions to the Journal of Productivity Analysis for US\$10 annually. Society Members may also receive an annual subscription for the print edition of the journal for US\$50. Since a large number of potential members already have access to the JPA via JSTOR we hope this will encourage those in research settings, public policy, business, or whose libraries do not have the resources for JSTOR to also join the Society. In addition, the Society will make recommendations to Springer for editorial leadership of the Journal of Productivity Analysis.

The Society will have a coordinator for its website and staff to assist in its day-to-day operations. Rice University's Department of Economics is the current location of the Society as our application for IRS 501 c (3) status as a nonprofit requires a location for the Society. Moreover, it also requires that the Society has officers and thus in its first year, before formal voting on officers is undertaken (as spelled out in the By-Laws) Robin Sickles (former Editor-in-Chief of the JPA), William Greene (current Editor-in-Chief of the JPA) and Valentin Zelenyuk (at the time we began the formal process of applying for ISEPA's nonprofit status he was Director of the Center for Efficiency and Productivity Analysis (CEPA) at the University of Queensland) will continue in their

roles as the principals of the Society. A new Board of Officers and the Executive Board will be voted on within the first year of our being granted nonprofit status as explained in the By-Laws.

In putting together the business plan for the Society, we have suggested to the current local organizers of the upcoming EWEPA, APPC, and NAPW that they tie the Society annual registration fees to conference registration fees. One option is that we could give the participants a reduction in their fees if they were members of the Society and the conference could share the revenues. Such arrangements in one form or another are prevalent in major international conferences representing a Society. Details have not yet been worked out at this time and are not a part of our draft budget.

The governance of the Society is modelled after a number of other professional Societies, such as the Society of Labor Economists (SOLE), (<http://www.sole-jole.org/bylaws.htm>), the International Society for Applied Econometrics (<https://www.applieconometrics.org/>), and the Society for Economic Measurement (<https://sem.society.cmu.edu/home.html>), among others.

NCCC-134 CALL for 2021 PAPER PROPOSALS

The NCCC-134 Committee on Applied Commodity Price Analysis, Forecasting, and Market Risk Management will host its 2021 Conference on **April 19-20, 2021**. Due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 conference will be held virtually.

****We will make every effort to maximize the benefits of the meetings in this virtual format, particularly the feedback the authors receive on their work. To achieve that we will ask each presenter to review two presentations and the moderators to review each presentation in their sessions. Thus, each presentation will receive at least 3 reviews in addition to the comments made during the presentation.****

General Topics

Proposed papers should emphasize applied research. We encourage papers on commodity price forecasting, farm and agribusiness risk management, futures and options markets, as well as price analysis problems or issues. Please submit work that will be completed by April 2021 on these and the following topics in commodity markets:

- Supply, demand, and price behavior
- Improved forecasting methods
- Improved risk management procedures
- Futures and options markets

Proposal Format

Submit a **two-page** (double-spaced) prospectus which contains the following.

1. Statement of the problem
2. Research objectives
3. Data and empirical procedures
4. Likely results and practical implications

Proposals **SHOULD NOT IDENTIFY AUTHORS** to protect their anonymity in the review process. Proposals should be Adobe Acrobat files (pdf) and the file names should not contain author names. An example proposal is posted at our website [here](#) (To download, right-click and 'Save Target As'...).

Submission Procedure

Authors should submit their proposals through online submission system by following the link <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/NCCC1342021>. Submissions must be made by **November 15, 2020**. If you have not submitted through this system in the past, you will need to create a user account by clicking the "Registration" tab in the online system.

After you log in to the system, click "+ Create new submission" in the Author Console. Enter the title of your proposal.

The section "AUTHORS" should list your e-mail address, Name, Organization, and Country. To add more authors, please enter the e-mail address of your co-author and click "+ Add." Fill in the fields to provide the name, organization, and country of your co-author and click "+ Add." Repeat this process to add more co-authors.

To upload your proposal click "Upload from Computer" and select the file. Click "Submit."

Submission Decisions

Screening committee will notify all submitting authors of their decision in December 2020. Successful authors must complete and submit their research presentation by **April 10, 2021**. Completed manuscripts are due on June 1, 2021 for digital publication.

See you in 2021!

NCCC-134 Co-Chairs

Olga Isengildina Massa (oimassa@vt.edu)

Mindy Mallory (mlmallor@purdue.edu)

Author Resources

An example meetings paper is linked [here](#).

Call for Papers

Special Section: Natural Sciences Education in a COVID-19 World

In mid-March, all of us in K-12 and higher education had to retool our courses under the intense emergency circumstances of a global pandemic due to COVID-19. As we look ahead to the 2020/21 academic year, we begin to imagine how to successfully adapt courses for online delivery, while continuing to offer learning experiences for our students that are as high quality as possible. Similar challenges are also facing those of us working in extension. Building on the success of the 2020 *NSE* special issue, the 2021 special issue of "*Natural Sciences Education in a COVID-19 World*" will explore our collective experiences with adapting to COVID-19. We encourage contributions on the following topics:

- Ideas, approaches and case studies on how to address the need to move courses online (relevant to both K-12 and higher education).
- Strategies to deal with various administrative challenges in higher education.
- Issues facing extension specialists in reaching out to farmers.

The overall goal is to share information that will allow institutions to build resilient programs that continue to meet learning outcomes necessary to prepare future generations of land managers and scientists.

Deadlines:

Letter of intent to write a paper should be sent to Bob Mahler (bmahler@uidaho.edu) by September 15, 2020. Submission deadline is **November 15, 2020**.

For more information, please visit

<https://access.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/21688281/specialsectioncall>.

2020 Scholarship Awards for Richardson-Applebaum Outstanding Graduate Research on Food Distribution

The Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) is pleased to accept applications for the **Richardson-Applebaum Outstanding Graduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing**. Broadly defined, this area encompasses all economic functions that occur between the farm gate and final consumer.

Eligibility

- The competition is open to all graduate students with scholarly interest and career aspirations in the food distribution system who have completed the degree between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.
- Please note: 1) applicants are limited to applying for each category only once and subsequent submissions will be not be considered, 2) only one submission will be accepted per university per category each year, and 3) applications must be submitted by February 1, 2021, there will be no deadline extensions, by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system: <https://bit.ly/FDRS2021application>

Award

- One travel stipend to attend the 2021 Annual Conference for each of the following categories: best Ph.D. Dissertation (\$1,500), best M.S. Thesis (\$1,500), and best M.S. Case Study (\$1,500).
- Complimentary one-year FDRS student membership.
- Complimentary conference registration fees and recognition at the 2021 FDRS Annual Conference, which will take place in Dallas, TX.
- The Ph.D. recipient is invited to deliver a 10-minute research presentation during the FDRS Applebaum-Richardson Award Luncheon.

Application steps

Students should save the following, in order, as one PDF file. When labeling the PDF file, please include your first and last name, category (e.g., Best Ph.D.), and name of your university. The final application must be submitted by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system:

<https://bit.ly/FDRS2021application>

- [Statement of Intent form](#) – The final application must be submitted by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system by **February 1, 2021**
- Cover letter that includes a brief synopsis of academic training, any food industry experience, and/or research experience and career interests and goals
- Letter of recommendation from the research paper advisor

- A copy of the dissertation/thesis/case study

For more information:

Please visit the FDRS website at www.fdrsinc.org

or contact FDRS's Vice President of Education: Dr. Kathy Kelley at KathyKelley@psu.edu

2021 Scholarship Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing

The Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) is pleased to accept applications for the 2021 Scholarship Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing. Broadly defined, this area encompasses all economic functions that occur between the farm gate and final consumer.

Eligibility

- The competition is open to all undergraduate students with scholarly interest and career aspirations in the food distribution system.
- Please note: 1) applicants are limited to applying for each category only once and subsequent submissions will not be considered, 2) only one submission will be accepted per university per category each year, and 3) applications must be submitted by February 1, 2021, there will be no deadline extensions, by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system: <https://bit.ly/FDRS2021application>

Award

- A travel stipend of \$1,000 to attend the 2021 Annual Conference for the best Undergraduate Student Research Paper
- Complimentary one-year FDRS student membership
- Complimentary conference registration fees and recognition at the 2021 FDRS Annual Conference, which will take place in Dallas, TX.

Application steps

Students should save the following, in order, as one PDF file. When labeling the PDF file, please include your first and last name, outstanding undergraduate category, and name of your university. The final application must be submitted by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system:

<https://bit.ly/FDRS2021application>

- [Statement of Intent form](#) – The final application must be submitted by the student's department head/chair using the online submission system by **February 1, 2021**
- Cover letter that includes a brief synopsis of academic training, any food industry experience, and/or research experience and career interests and goals.
- Letter of recommendation from the research paper advisor.
- The complete research paper. Write the research paper following the formatting guidelines provided on page 2 and 3.

For more information:

Please visit the FDRS website at www.fdrsinc.org

Or contact FDRS's Vice President of Education: Dr. Kathy Kelley at KathyKelley@psu.edu

Member Benefits

- [Membership Directory](#)
- [Members in the News Highlights](#)
- [Mentorship Resources](#)
- [AJAE Advance Access](#)
- [AEPP Advance Access](#)
- [2020 Virtual Meeting FREE Member Access \(Registration Required\)](#)

The Exchange

published biweekly by the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association.

Submissions to *The Exchange*:

email: aware@aaea.org

or

info@aaea.org

www.aaea.org



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Open Jobs

- [Agronomist or Agricultural Economist \(Research Leader\), USDA-ARS](#)
USDA-ARS (Posted: 10/30/2020)
- [Two Branch Chief Positions at Economic Research Service](#)
USDA-Economic Research Service
(Posted: 10/29/2020)
- [Post Doctoral Fellow](#)
Oklahoma State University (Posted: 10/26/2020)
- [Economist](#)
American Farm Bureau Federation
(Posted: 10/26/2020)

*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 [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 Jessica Weister at JWeister@aaea.org or 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.