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Member Profile

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What motivated you to pursue Agricultural/Applied Economics as a profession?

When I initially started college, I really wasn't sure what agricultural economics was,

but I knew I wanted to be in the College of Agriculture, and I had always really enjoyed working with numbers and problem solving. Thanks to devoted and passionate professors, I quickly realized this was the perfect field for me. I was convinced, "they had the best job in the world!"

Because of the excitement I observed in others in our profession, it was my goal to give back to our communities and the profession by training and preparing our students, conducting relevant applied research that is of value academically as well as to our constituents and providing important and timely outreach programs.

Why did you join AAEA, and how has membership in the Association impacted your professional development?

I first joined AAEA as an undergraduate student in 2004 in order to compete in the academic quiz bowl competition. However, once I started graduate school, I began to really understand the importance of this association. Being able to present a paper or

a poster while a graduate student, provides extra motivation and incentive to do your best work and allows you to be seen and interact with professionals prior to entering the job market. Now I most look forward to reconnecting with colleagues and former classmates from around the world each year. The association has allowed me to meet new people and collaborate on projects I would have never been aware of otherwise.

What advice would you give to an up and coming Agricultural/Applied Economist?

I would encourage an up and coming Agricultural/Applied Economist to get involved with AAEA as soon as possible. There are so many ways to be involved whether it is volunteering to judge or moderate the undergraduate quiz bowl competition, the graduate student case study competition, presenting a selected paper or poster, joining and participating in one of the sections, or organizing a track session. We all enjoy presenting our research and learning what others are doing to expand the knowledge base, but that is only a part of what AAEA is about. Generally speaking, we are a small profession, and the opportunity to connect and network each year is important for all of our careers.

This post is part of an ongoing series of profiles of AAEA members. Have a suggestion for a future profile? Send them to Info@aaea.org.

Call for Pre/Post-conference Workshop Proposals

The AAEA Executive Board invites proposals for Pre- and Post-conference Workshops at the 2016 AAEA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. The deadline for proposals is **Thursday, December 3, 2015**. 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 will be 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, www.aaea.org. The form asks the proposers for the following information:

1. Title of proposed session and the proposed date and time that the workshop would take place (potential dates include **Saturday, July 30**, and **Wednesday, August 3**).
2. 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.
3. Potential speakers, presenters, or panel members, and the total time required for these presentations.
4. Intended audience and expected attendance at the workshop.
5. Contact information for organizers in charge of overall development and coordination (complete addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses).
6. Complete budget information, which includes: financial support expected, speakers' fees, 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.
7. Any requests for membership and/or registration fee waivers that may be required in order to properly conduct the workshop.
8. 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](#). Submissions should be sent to adouangphachanh@aaea.org by **Thursday, December 3, 2015**. For more information, contact the AAEA Business Office at (414) 918-3190.

Call for Invited Paper Session Proposals

AAEA welcomes proposals for Invited Paper sessions for the 2016 AAEA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. Papers in these Invited Paper sessions may be published in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* in March 2017 subject to review. **Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using the online submission system by Thursday, December 3, 2015. The system will open in early November.**

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 by how well they satisfy 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 innovative 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, session rationale, titles and two-page abstracts of each proposed presentation; and names and contact information of authors, discussants, and moderators.

Proposals will be reviewed and selected by a subcommittee of the AAEA Board. Final versions of the invited papers must be submitted to AgEcon Search by **May 25, 2016**, and should be submitted to the *AJAE* Proceedings Issue Editor by the same date if the authors wish the invited paper to be reviewed for publication in the *AJAE*.

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



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

Call for Case Study Invited Paper Session Proposals

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Case Study Invited Paper Session

AAEA welcomes proposals for Case Studies for a special Invited Paper session competition that will be part of the 2016 AAEA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. Cases in this Invited Paper session may be published in the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* in January 2017, subject to review. **Proposals from individuals or groups need to be submitted using the online submission system by Thursday, December 3, 2015. The submission system will open in early November.**

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 and 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, 2016.**

Selected case studies (with teaching note when applicable) should be completed by **April 14, 2016.** 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 AgEcon Search by **May 25, 2016** and should be submitted to the *AJAE* Proceedings Issue Editor by the same date if the authors wish the case study to be reviewed for publication in the *AJAE*.

Call for Track Sessions

Track Sessions sponsored by AAEA Sections

The AAEA Executive Board invites Track Session proposals for the 2016 AAEA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. Initial proposals need to be submitted by **Thursday, December 3, 2015**, to Sarah Kenner at skenner@aaea.org. Final, detailed submissions associated with each session are due by March 5, 2015. 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 will be notified of their allocations in November 2015.

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 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.

AAEA has created a [Track Session Outline form](#) for Section Leaders to use when submitting their initial outlines in December. This form should be submitted for each session, by the leader of the sponsoring section.

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 Sarah Kenner at skenner@aaea.org or (414) 918-3190 if you have any other questions about submitting or participating in a Track Session.

Call for FSN Track Session Proposals

The leadership of the Food Safety & Nutrition (FSN) section of the AAEA is organizing track sessions for next year's AAEA meetings in Boston (July 31 – August 2, 2016).

Based on last year's allocation, we expect to have five track sessions and the option of up to

five additional co-sponsored sessions (with other AAEA sections) for a total of 10 track sessions. We therefore welcome proposals that identify other sections that could co-sponsor the session.

According to the AAEA guidelines, track sessions with



Food Safety and Nutrition Section (FSN)

presentations must fit one of the following formats:

- Four presentations with no discussants or panelists
- Three presentations with a maximum of one discussant
- Two presentations with a maximum of two discussants or panelists

• In sessions without presentations, a maximum of five participants may be included as panelists

All proposals fitting this format will be considered, but we have a preference for the first or second options.

You may check out the program of the previous years for ideas of track sessions (see <http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/fsn/section->

[activities](#)). If you have questions or need help identifying potential collaborators and/or collaborating sections, feel free to email Michele Belot, FSN section chair elect (michele.belot@ed.ac.uk) or Christiane Schroeter, FSN section chair (cschroet@calpoly.edu). Please note that all presenters need to be current FSN members to be eligible to present in a track session from the FSN section.

We would like to receive as much information as possible about your proposed session (theme, presenters, moderator).

Please submit your proposed track session ideas by emailing michele.belot@ed.ac.uk by 6 PM PST, Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

Call for FAMPS Track Session Proposals

The leadership of the Food and Ag Marketing Policy Section (FAMPS) of the AAEA is organizing track sessions for next year's AAEA Annual Meetings in Boston, MA (July 31–August 2, 2016).

*Food and Agricultural Marketing
Policy Section (FAMPS)*



We are asking that you submit your proposed track section ideas (send to: jberning@uga.edu) by **Friday, November 13**.

Track sessions with presentations must fit one the following formats:

- Four presentations with no discussants or panelists,
- Three presentations with a maximum of one discussant, or
- Two presentations with a maximum of two discussants or panelists.
- In sessions without presentations, a maximum of five participants may be included as panelist

In addition, if you have a session/paper idea and you want some help finding potential collaborators, feel free to contact section chair Josh Berning (jberning@uga.edu) or chair-elect Jane Kolodinsky (jane.kolodinsky@uvm.edu).

If you have never been part of a FAMPS track session, they are a great opportunity to bring together interesting researchers and research topics!

FAMPS exists to facilitate networking and sharing of research ideas among AAEA members with similar interests. FAMPS seeks to foster informed economic debate, research and communication about food and agricultural marketing policies of current and emerging significance, in both national and international contexts.

Obituary

Yair Mundlak

Yair Mundlak passed away mid-October, 2015. Mundlak is an alumni of the University of California, Berkeley and was one of the leaders of the field of agricultural economics. He completed his MS in statistics at Berkeley in 1956, and his PhD in agricultural economics in 1957.

Upon completion of his graduate training, Yair returned to Israel as an associate professor of agricultural economics at the Hebrew

University of Jerusalem. In 1970 he was promoted to full professor and appointed to the Ruth-Hochberg Chair in Agricultural Economics. Between 1965 and 1973, he headed the Department of Agricultural Economics, and from 1972-1974 served as the Dean of the School of Agriculture.

In addition to his academic appointments in Israel, from 1978 until his retirement in 1997, Yair also served as a

professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Chicago, where he held the F.H. Prinze Chair in Economics.

Yair was most focused on agricultural production, economic growth, and econometrics. He was a great mentor, institution builder and pioneer in our field. He played an important role in our department and our profession, and he will be greatly missed.

Other News

Call for Applications:

U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security Program

U.S. Borlaug Graduate Research Grant

Application Deadline: Monday, November 9, 2015

The U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security graduate research grant supports exceptional graduate students who are interested in developing a component of their graduate research in a developing country setting and in collaboration with a mentor from an International Agricultural Research Center (IARC) or a qualifying National Agricultural Research System (NARS) unit. U.S. citizenship is

required, and applicants must be enrolled in an accredited U.S. graduate program at the time of application. A list of previous recipients is [here](#).

Applications are available at the [program website](#).

Questions may be sent to borlaugfellows@purdue.edu.

Call for Paper Proposals:

NCCC-134 2016

The NCCC-134 Committee on Applied Commodity Price Analysis, Forecasting, and Market Risk Management will host its 2016 Conference on **April 18-19, 2016**, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel St. Louis – Downtown, St. Louis, Missouri.

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 2016 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

Please include a title page with author information and a reference page. An example proposal is posted [here](#) (To download, right-click and 'Save Target As').

Submission Procedure

- Submit by e-mail to Berna Karali (bkarali@uga.edu) by **October 31, 2015**
- Attach proposal as Adobe Acrobat file named Author1_Author2_NCCC-134_2016.pdf
- Proposals received will be acknowledged via reply email
- Screening committee will notify all submitting authors of their decision in December 2015
- Successful authors must complete and submit research presentation by April 13, 2016
- Completed manuscripts are due on June 1, 2016, for digital publication

See the NCCC-134 website at <http://www.farmdoc.illinois.edu/nccc134/> for more information on registration, conference venue and hotel accommodations.

NCCC-134 Co-Chairs

Berna Karali (bkarali@uga.edu)

Anton Bekkerman (anton.bekkerman@montana.edu)

Job Openings

Be sure to visit the [AAEA Job Board](#)! Our new platform allows employers to post open positions on the site and browse the resumes of qualified candidates. Applicants can apply for these positions online and upload their resumes anonymously, protecting their personal information



Social Media

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Submit all items to:

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e-mail: info@aaea.org

Website: www.aaea.org



Coming up in the next issue of The Exchange...

- Government Relations Update
- People Section

Be sure to check out the [AAEA Events & Deadlines Calendar](#)