I’m pleased to announce a generous $150,000 grant from the USDA-ERS to the Association in support of AAEA professional development activities with a focus on strengthening the skills of new members of the profession. We aim to expand the diversity of the profession across many dimensions; including the types of careers and backgrounds of members and build ties between individuals from different institutions. The funds will be used to help support workshops such as the Early Career Professional Symposium that will be held this summer, and more generally, we will be able to expand travel grants to the summer meetings and other symposia and workshops. We are also working to expand the resources available on the newly created Online Mentorship Portal, and to re-ignite the successful one-on-one mentorship program held in previous years. Many thanks to ERS!

The aforementioned symposium is just one example of the kinds of activities AAEA encourages and supports. Have an idea for a meeting but don’t want to deal with all the logistical headaches? Submit a proposal for a symposium and let the AAEA business office help with the logistical details. We can even help provide some financial support or travel grants. Sometimes the symposium route is not quite the right fit for every activity, so we also offer the opportunity for AAEA Workshops and even AAEA Endorsed Events.

One might wonder where the money is coming from to help sponsor such activities. As you might have noticed, the AAEA budget has been running at a deficit for the past couple of years. This is on purpose. We have enough reserves in the bank to cover three years of operating expenses, and a couple years ago we were in the fortunate position of receiving some larger-than-expected payouts from our contract with Oxford University Press. Past AAEA board members have made decisions to spend down a portion of these reserves on strategic activities such as mentoring, symposia, government relations, and outreach (mainly C-FARE), and on media and communication. We will ultimately have to bring the budget back into balance, but we are hopeful the current expenditures will have long-term payoffs for members of the association.

Speaking of media and communication, we want to promote your work. But, we need your help. If you have recently been in the news, let the AAEA business office know. In addition, we have initiated efforts to generate press releases for selected AJAE and AEPP articles prior to publication. If you are contacted by the AAEA business office about one of your articles, help us tell your story. I am a firm believer that our profession does important work relevant to multiple stakeholders. However, the work is useless unless people know about it.
Planning is already underway for the 2017 AAEA Annual Meeting in Chicago. We are likely to tinker a bit with the schedule for reunions, posters, and other activities in an effort to improve the meeting experience. Be on the lookout in the near future for the call for invited papers.

Finally, I recently had the opportunity to participate in the planning and strategy meetings with Oxford University Press and the editors of AEPP and AJAE. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of skilled editors. Spiro Stefanou and Terry Hurley will soon be rolling off as editors of the AEPP and will be replaced by Craig Gundersen and Chris McIntosh. For the AJAE, JunJie Wu and Jim Vercammen will be finishing up their term at the end of the year, and we will soon start the search for their replacements. Submissions to the journals and downloads to papers in the journals continue to climb. We are continuing to investigate ways to improve the impact of the journals and explore whether our current offerings are meeting the needs of the profession.

As always, I welcome your suggestions and comments.

Jayson Lusk
AAEA President

AAEA News

AAEA Trust Call for Proposals
The AAEA Trust Committee and Executive Board are seeking proposals for programs or projects that:

- Support development of graduate students and early career professionals
  AND/OR
- Deepen participation in AAEA or reach out to new groups
  AND/OR
- Enhance the AAEA Annual Meeting

Funds donated to the unrestricted and student and early career professional development categories of the AAEA Trust will be used to fund proposals approved by the AAEA Trust Committee and Executive Board. Proposals from AAEA Committees and Sections are encouraged. Please note that the Trust does not fund individual research projects, nor does it retroactively fund activities that have already taken place. Please contact Trust Committee Chair Jill McCluskey at mccluskey@wsu.edu if you would like to discuss your proposal ideas before submission.

Proposal submissions should include:

1. A cover sheet with name of applicant; applicant’s mailing address, e-mail, and phone number; title of the project; abstract of the project; timing, duration, and location of the project; and amount of funding requested.
2. A project description, not to exceed five double-spaced pages, including the purpose, scope, implementation procedures, the individuals responsible for management of the project, date/timing of the project, and location of the project.
3. An itemized budget, indicating costs to be borne by the Trust and funding provided by other sources, if any. The AAEA Business Office may be a resource for budget information.

Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file by **Monday, October 17, 2016**, to ensure consideration for funding for the next year. Proposals will be reviewed by the AAEA Trust Committee, which will make recommendations to the Executive Board for action at the January 2017 Board Meeting.

Proposals should be submitted to Brian Mondragón Jones, AAEA Executive Director, via e-mail at bmjones@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Brian or Jill.

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**Sylvia Lane Mentor Fellowship: Call for Applications**

The Sylvia Lane Mentor Fellowship provides an opportunity for early career female scholars working on food, agricultural, or resource issues to collaborate with an established expert at another university, institution, or firm.

At least one (1) Fellowship of up to $2,500 will be awarded for use during the 2017 calendar year. The funding is designed to cover the costs of travel and expenses for the awardee to work directly with the mentor on a specific project. Preference will be given to new mentoring relationships as opposed to continuing an existing one.

The application deadline is **October 17, 2016**.

To apply, please submit the following:

1. Cover letter outlining proposed plan for mentorship, including contact information for the mentor, proposed dates of collaboration, and outputs expected
2. Current CV for nominee
3. Research proposal outlining the research project that you will work on with your mentor (maximum 3 single-spaced pages)
4. Letter of recommendation
5. Letter of intent to collaborate from the proposed mentor
6. Budget

Applications should be submitted in a single PDF format to Brian Mondragón Jones, at bmjones@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.
**McCorkle Scholarship: Call for Applications**

The AAEA Trust Committee is accepting applications for the 2017 Chester O. McCorkle Jr. Student Scholarship. This scholarship will support applied research by a graduate student on economic issues relating to agriculture. At least one (1) scholarship of up to $2,000 will be awarded. Funds can be used for research related expenses, data collection, tuition and program related expenses such as fees, books, supplies and equipment, provided the items are required of all students in the program.

Applications are due **October 17, 2016**.

Applicants should submit:
1. Description of the proposed research (maximum of 5 pages)
2. Itemized budget
3. Letter of support from their major advisor; and
4. Graduate transcript.

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF file to Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

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**Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award: Call For Applications**

The Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Trust is now accepting applications for the Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award. The Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award supports a mentorship relationship with a goal to promote high quality research of a policy/problem solving nature in countries with food insecurity and environmental pressures. It is meant to promote collaboration between an early career scholar who is a citizen of and resides in a developing country and a distinguished mentor.

The award is intended to cover the costs of travel and expenses for a scholar and mentor to work together on a specific research project in a high priority area for the scholar’s country. The maximum fellowship grant will be $5,000. Up to $1,500 can be allocated for mentor travel and other expenses during the fellowship period. Research topics should fall within the mission of the AAEA (www.aaea.org/about-aaea).

Scholars should be professional economists who are citizens of, and reside in, a developing country. A complete list of qualifying countries is available under the headings “Low-income economies” and “Lower-middle-income economies” at: http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups#Low_income. Scholars should either have completed their terminal degree or will complete it within the year. Students studying in countries that are not considered “low-income economies” and “lower-middle-income economies” may apply, but they must be completing their degree and planning to permanently reside in a “low-income” and “lower-middle-income” country by the end of 2016.
The Exchange

Mentors can reside in any part of the world, but each must be an AAEA member.

To apply, scholars should submit the following:
1. Cover letter outlining proposed plan for mentorship, including contact information for the mentor, proposed dates and nature of the research project and collaboration, and outputs expected
2. Recent CV
3. Research proposal outlining the research project that the applicant will work on with his or her mentor (maximum 3 single-spaced pages)
4. Letter of recommendation from the applicant’s department head/supervisor stating that the institution supports the applicant’s participation
5. Letter of intent to collaborate from the proposed mentor
6. Budget

Applications should be submitted in a single PDF format to Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org by October 17, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by email or by phone at (414) 918–3190.

Anthony Grano Fellowship:
Call for Applications

The AAEA Trust is now accepting applications for the Anthony Grano Scholarship Award. One scholarship of $2,000 will be awarded to an academically successful, highly motivated student in agricultural economics or a closely related discipline with an interest in agricultural policy and the policy formation process. The scholarship will support recipients to travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with senior staff from USDA, Congressional offices, and agricultural trade associations and commodity organizations.

Eligible applicants will be graduate students in either agricultural economics or economics with an agricultural emphasis in any U.S. university.

The application deadline is October 17, 2016.

To apply, please submit the following:
1. Cover letter that expresses interest and includes applicant contact information,
2. Essay on a current agricultural policy issue (2–5 pages),
3. Recent CV,
4. A copy of university transcripts, and
5. Letter of recommendation from department head. Department Head must be willing to match the funds if their nominee is selected.

Failure to provide any of these required documents will result in rejection of the application.

Applications should be submitted in a single space, 12 Font Size, 1” margins, and PDF format to Brian Mondragón Jones, AAEA Executive Director, at bmjones@aaea.org.
2016 Grano Award Winner Testimonial

"I cannot thank AAEA or the Grano Board enough for the opportunity to visit Washington D.C. this fall. Having never traveled to D.C. before, the trip presented many unique professional and personal opportunities. In many graduate programs, my own included, classes or subject content is rarely focused on policy or its implications in the real world. The wide array of high level meetings I was able to attend through this scholarship program allowed me to see both the big picture and finer nuances of agricultural policy and its application to the study of economics. Through this program I was able to network and expose myself to a multitude of policy applications including congressional work, lobbying, market analysis, trade, and marketing. I strongly recommend this program to all graduate students considering a career in policy work and hope the program continues long into the future."

People Section

Colorado State University

- New Appointments: Jesse Burkhardt, Assistant Professor; Katie Hartmann, Coordinator of Undergrad Programs; Duy Nong, Post Doc; Libby Christensen, Post Doctorate
- Return from Leave: Greg Graff
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Jada Thompson, PhD, Post–Doctorate, Kansas State University; Nicholas Janusch, PhD, Post–Doctoral Researcher, Center for Experimental & Applied Economics, University of Delaware; Misti Sharp, PhD, Instructor, University of Florida; Anne Byrne, MS, PhD, Cornell; Patrick Hogan, MS, Research Analyst, Southwick Associates, Florida

Economic Research Service (USDA-ERS)

- New Appointments: Brandon Restrepo, Agricultural Economist; M. Taylor Rhodes, Agricultural Economist; Eliana Zeballos, Research Agricultural Economist; Jeffrey Gillespie, Branch Chief; Chang Hong, Agricultural Economist; Monica Saavoss, Economist; Travis Minor, Cross–Commodity Analyst for Specialty Crops
- Awards: Steve Martinez, Katherine Ralston, and Hayden Stewart USDA, USDA Secretary’s Annual Honor Award for the Local Foods Study Team; Charlotte Tuttle, AAEA, “Honorable Mention” AJAE Best Journal Article and “Best Food Safety and Nutrition Article” for AJAE; Mark Denbaly, Shelly Ver Ploeg, John Kirlin, Jessica Todd, Lisa Mancino, Elina Page, Dawn Williams, and Christopher Dicken, USDA, Secretary’s Annual Honor Award for the National Household Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey Group; Jayson Beckman, John Dyck, and Tani Lee, USDA, Lincoln Award; Jayson Beckman, John Dyck, and Tani Lee, USDA, Secretary’s Award for Customer Service; Fred Gale, AAEA, Quality of Communications Award; William Liefert and Olga Liefert, AAEA, Outstanding Article in Choices
- Retirement: David Harvey, 37 years of service
- Resignation: Seanicia Edwards

University of Georgia

- New Appointments: Ellen McCullough, Assistant Professor; Adam Rabinowitz,
Assistant Professor; Levi Russell, Assistant Professor

- Appointment Change: Joshua Berning, Associate Professor;

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Ellen Coats, MS, Economic Analyst, RTI; Chelsea Chambers, MS, Associate at Red Ventures in Charlotte, NC; Audrianna Marzette, MAB., Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA; Sarah Brown, MAB, Financial Analyst at Wells Fargo in Charlotte, NC; Jonathan Balchus, MAB, Farm Credit Administration in Denver, CO; Drew Dickerson, MAB, Data Analyst at Jacobsen in Charlotte, NC

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

- New Appointment: Todd Hubbs, Clinical Assistant Professor
- Appointment Changes: Mindy Mallory, Associate Professor; A. Bryan Endres, Professor
- Awards: Madhu Khanna, AAEA, Fellow; Phil Garcia, AAEA, Distinguished Teaching Award–Ten or More Years’ Experience; Phil Garcia and Scott Irwin, AAEA, Quality of Research Award; Mark Althouse, Ryan Batts, Jonathan Coppess, Stu Ellis, Andrew Goers, Scott Irwin, Nick Paulson, Gary Schnitkey, Bruce Sherrick Carl Zulauf (OSU) Roy Black (MSU) John Clendaniel and Albert Essels (DSU), AAEA, Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Award
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Tisorn Songermsawas, PhD, Economist, International Fund for Agricultural Development of the United Nations; Anthony Oliver, PhD, Economist, South Coast Air Quality Management District; Miao Wang, PhD, Credit Portfolio Risk Manager, CitiMortgage Inc.

**International Food Policy Research Institute**

- New Appointments: Kindie Alamneh, Research Fellow; Beverly Postma, Chief Executive Officer, HarvestPlus
- Awards: Guush Berhane, Stephen Devereux, John Hoddinott, Jessica Hoel, Keetie Roelen, Kibrewossen Abay, Martha Kimmel, Natasha Ledlie, and Thomas Woldu, UNICEF, Best of UNICEF Research 2016; Danielle Resnick, Urban and Local Politics Section of the American Political Science Association (APS), Clarence Stone Scholar Award; Xiaobo Zhang, Peikang Chang Research Foundation of Development Economics, Peikang Chang Development Economics Outstanding Achievement Award; Amir Jilani, McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, 2016 MPP Thesis Prize.

**University of Maryland**

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Davide Cerruti, PhD, Post–Doctorate, Centre for Energy Policy and Economics, ETH, Zurich; Jaclyn Evans, PhD, Senior Economist, U.S. Government Accountability Office; Patrick Fleming, PhD, Assistant Professor, Franklin & Marshall College; Monica Saavoss, PhD, Research Agricultural Economist, Economic Research Service, USDA
- Visitor: Fernando Aragon, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University (Burnaby, Canada), Visiting Scholar, September 2016–December 2016

**University of Minnesota**

- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: Yihan Yang, MS, Research Scientist, Savvysherpa Inc.
Mississippi State University

- Appointment Changes: Xiaofei Li, Assistant Professor; Keith Coble, Head of Agricultural Economics Department
- Leave: Barry Barnett, Sabbatical – Germany, September 2016–June 2017

University of Missouri

- Retirement: Vern Pierce, 20 years of service

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS)

- Appointment Change: Lakeitha Ruffin, NRCS State Economist

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Award: Lia Nogueira–Rodriguez, WAEA, Outstanding Published Research Reviewer Award 2016
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: Iuliia Protopop, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Agriculture at Illinois State University

North Dakota State University

- Appointment Change: Saleem Shaik, Director of Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies

The Ohio State University

- New Appointments: Bruce Braine, Lecturer; Lisa Briggs, Lecturer; Iryna Demko, Postdoctoral Researcher in Agribusiness; Robert Dinterman, Postdoctoral Researcher in Agribusiness; Charla Fraley, Lecturer; Peggy Hall, Lecturer; Scott Holley, Lecturer; Anna Parkman, Lecturer; Douglas Southgate, Lecturer; Christopher Williams, Lecturer
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Anel Baron, PhD, Senior Analyst, Ernst & Young; LaPorchia Collins, PhD, Assistant Professor of Practice, Tulane University; James Goodenberger, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, Washington and Lee University; Yun Qiu, PhD, Assistant Professor, Jinan University Institute for Economic and Social Research; Victor Iturra Rivera, PhD, Assistant Professor, Universidad Catolica del Norte; Eric Tseng, PhD, Risk Modeling Analyst, Huntington National Bank; Benjamin Jara Valencia, PhD, Assistant Professor, Universidad Catolica del Norte
- Visitor: Min Zhang, PhD Candidate, Zhejiang University, Visiting Scholar, September 2016 – March 2017.

Purdue University

- New Appointments: Uris Lantz C. Baldos, Research Assistant Professor; Russell Hillberry, Associate Professor; William Secor, Clinical Assistant Professor
- Award: Gerald Shively, African Association of Agricultural Economics, Fellow

Washington State University

- New Appointments: Can Tien, Assistant Professor; Richard Iles, Assistant Professor; Eric Jessup, Associate Research Professor
- Award: Jill McCluskey, Washington State University, Washington State Academy of Sciences
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Sherzod Akhundjanov, PhD, Assistant Professor, Utah State University; Ryan Bain, PhD, Associate, Thomas Roney Economics Consulting; Miaoru Liu, PhD, Sr. Corporate Risk Officer, Zions Bancorporation; Tristan Skolrud, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Saskatchewan
- Return from Leave: Andrew Cassey
- Leaves: Jinhui Bai, China; Ana Espanola–Arredondo, Spain; Felix Munoz–Garcia, Spain
Retirement: Richard Shumway, 19 years of service

Resignations: Peter Tozer, Jeremy Sage

Other News

2017 EAAE in Parma, Italy:
Call for Contributions

Agri-food systems in Europe and elsewhere often face conflicting incentives and signals arising from markets and society, and need to make trade-offs. Sustainability advocacy groups are putting societal concerns like animal welfare, food safety, cultural heritage, food sovereignty, and carbon footprint on the agenda of policy makers and stakeholders in the food value chain. However, there are many challenges to overcome, especially when more sustainable food systems face conflicting goals, and households’ purchasing decisions are mainly price-driven.

Policy makers, therefore, face increasing challenges in balancing these concerns. The nature of challenges has changed over time with new technologies becoming available, with the ongoing innovation and transition to the bio-based economy, with an increasing share of the population living in urban areas, and with many markets becoming global. Some of these changes are subtle as borders between rural and urban areas are gradually disappearing, and cities are integrating agricultural activities within their boundaries.

The European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) scientific community is key to providing insights into the economic challenges and opportunities arising from the changing expectations and requirements from markets and society on agriculture. The XV EAAE Congress aims to foster discussion and interaction among scholars with representatives from business, society and policy agencies.

The EAAE board has appointed the Program Committee to organize the scientific program of the Congress. The Local Organizing Committee and the Program Committee are striving to arrange a very stimulating and innovative Congress program consisting of organized sessions, organized panels, invited plenary presentations, contributed papers, posters, as well as field trips.

In particular, policy makers, societal stakeholders, and agribusiness representatives shall contribute to the program through organized panels which have an open format and do not require a scientific paper. Organized panels could be thought as sort of a “round table” discussion, moderated by an “external” figure to the presenting/debating panelists, which may also feature one or two presentations by academics. A formal scientific paper is not required to encourage the participation by NGOs, producer/industry groups representatives, or any other stakeholder who may not be accustomed to submitting a formal paper. A four-person panel, in which academia, industry, NGO/stakeholder/societal groups and policy representatives are present and deliver their presentation/speech for 15 minutes each, may be the best format. The remaining 30 minutes could be employed for discussion – solicited by the moderator – or for answering questions from the audience. In order to facilitate stakeholder participation...
to the organized panels daily participation fees will be foreseen, in case a one day presence is anticipated. Hopefully, the XV EAAE Congress in Parma will provide an interactive platform for researchers and representatives from non-academic institutions.

**Call for papers, organized sessions, and posters**
Contributed papers and posters as well as organized sessions are welcomed from all fields of agricultural, food, environmental and rural economics, and related disciplines.

The *deadlines for submission are*:
- Contributed papers: **January 31, 2017**
- Organized sessions: **March 15, 2017**
- Organized panels: **March 15, 2017**
- Posters: **April 1, 2017**

**Notification of acceptance:**
- Contributed papers: **April 14, 2017**
- Organized sessions: **April 21, 2017**
- Organized panels: **April 21, 2017**
- Posters: **April 21, 2017**

Final versions of contributed papers and posters due: **June 5, 2017**.

Meanwhile, you can also [Stay in Touch](#) with the organization on the Social Media referenced throughout the website or via the Newsletter.

Any help in spreading the word about the Call for Contribution and the Congress Social Media presence will be greatly appreciated!

**Contribution Submission and Registration**
Contribution submission and registration will be managed through ConfTool Pro, via the Congress website, or – directly – at [https://www.conftool.com/eaae2017/](https://www.conftool.com/eaae2017/).

Conference registration (at a later date) will be possible only by participants with a valid EAAE membership. Please note that this condition will be strictly enforced! To learn more about the benefits of and conditions for becoming an EAAE Member, please visit the Association [page](#).

The early opening of a ConfTool Pro account, besides the Congress Social Media and Newsletter, will guarantee you are up to date with any further detail on deadlines and the Congress itself.

The flyer containing the Call for Contributions, Deadlines for Submission, and other pieces of information related to the XV EAAE Congress is available for you to download and share here: [XV EAAE Congress Flyer](#).
2017 Economics and Managements of Risks in Agriculture and Natural Resources Annual Meeting:

Call for Submissions

The SCC–76 “Economics and Management of Risks in Agriculture and Natural Resources” Group is soliciting submissions for the 2017 Annual Meeting, taking place March 30 – April 1, 2017, in Pensacola Beach, FL.

The objective of the conference is to provide a forum to facilitate the exchange of applied approaches to risk analysis, economics, and policy – both empirical and theoretical – as well as to nurture the development and application of dynamic and original research efforts related to agriculture and natural resources. Applied work in domains of government, industry, and academia are most welcome.

Abstracts should normally not exceed two double-spaced pages and should outline the research question, methodology, and results of the research. Authors are welcome to submit abstracts for finished papers as well as papers in the early stages of development. All papers relevant to risk in agricultural and applied economics and their constituent fields will be considered. When submitting a paper, please indicate whether you would like a discussant. Requesting a discussant means you agree to discuss another paper.

Abstracts should be submitted by email (PDF only) no later than December 15, 2016, to abstracts@agriskgroup.org. Authors will be informed whether their papers are accepted by December 23, 2016. If a discussant is requested, a draft paper will be due by March 1, 2017.

The group’s website is: https://www.agriskgroup.org/

Job Opportunities

- 13 Doctoral Researchers in Agricultural and Development Economics
  University of Goettingen
  (10/04/2016)
- Assistant/Associate Professor
  Center for Experimental Economics in Education (CEEE)
  (10/01/2016)
- Assistant Professor, Food, Health, and Agricultural Policy
  Pennsylvania State University
  (09/29/2016)
- Postdoctoral Research Associate
  Texas A&M AgriLife Research
  (09/29/2016)

These current positions and more can be found on the AAEA Job Board.