

AAEA News

Call for Nominations: AAEA President-Elect and Directors

The AAEA Nominating Committee is soliciting nominations from AAEA membership for AAEA President-Elect and two AAEA Directors, all for three-year terms beginning July 2024.

Please submit the names and affiliations of nominees to kmcquire@aea.org. Nominations must be received by **October 4, 2023**.

Call for Nominations 2024 Fellows Award Nominations

The AAEA Fellows Selection Committee is inviting nominations for the 2024 AAEA Fellows Awards. The deadline for submission of nominations and supporting biographical documentation is **Wednesday, October 4, 2023**. Selection is based mainly on a continuous contribution to the advancement of agricultural or applied economics as defined by the Vision Statement of the AAEA. Achievements may be in research, teaching, extension, administration, or business. The nominee must be a living current member of AAEA and have been a member for at least five years.

Please follow these guidelines to submit Fellows nominations (non-complying materials will be returned). The nomination package should focus on documentation of the case for the nominee's contributions rising to a level that warrants recognition as a Fellow. "Continuous contribution" means exceptional service over a period of years. Such exceptional service may be demonstrated by: research discoveries published in major professional journals; leadership in the development of extension programs extensively utilized by other professionals; the development of undergraduate or graduate programs of learning that have become nationally recognized professionally and by students who have, in turn, demonstrated success as a result of these teaching programs; contributions to advance diversity, equity and inclusion objectives in the broader profession through for example, teaching, research collaboration, professional leadership, or outreach to, engagement with, and mentoring of individuals from underrepresented groups; or outstanding performance in government, business, or NGOs. As a general principle, continuous service means more than a single act that might be rewarded by an outstanding journal article, extension, or teaching award. The documentation for the nominee provided should make clear the impact of the individual nominated in the areas of achievement to which the nominee has contributed. This evidence could include, but is not limited to, reference to publications, awards, honors, reports, testimonials to notable tasks undertaken and outcomes achieved, or other contributions to the profession.

Members of the Fellows Selection Committee and AAEA Executive Committee (President-Elect, President, or Past President) may not nominate or provide support statements for nominees. Nomination packages that include support statements from a member of the Fellows Selection Committee and/or the AAEA Executive Committee will be sent back to the nominator for revisions.

Testimonial letters or vitae are not required. The total nomination package should be limited to a maximum of eight typed pages using 12-point font and with margins of at least one inch on all four sides. All material must be double-spaced. Please include the name, institution, and contact information of all the nominators within the eight-page package. Nominations should be submitted as a single PDF file to Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aaea.org. Please contact Kristen if you have any questions.

The 2024 Fellows Recognition Ceremony will be held as part of the 2024 AAEA Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. Information on previous AAEA Fellows and the procedures used to select Fellows is available on the [AAEA Fellows page](#).

AAEA Trust Call for Proposals

The AAEA Trust supports the work of agricultural and applied economists by funding programs, initiatives, activities, or other creative endeavors designed to advance the profession. Proposals are chosen to receive funding based on their ability to accomplish at least one of the following goals:

- support graduate student and early career professional development
- enhance the AAEA Annual Meeting
- broaden participation in AAEA across the year (beyond Annual meetings)
- address our strategic goal to be more inclusive through outreach to new groups
- broaden the horizons of the current membership

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 Norbert Wilson at nwilson@div.duke.edu if you would like to discuss your proposal ideas before submission.

Proposal submissions should include:

1. A cover sheet with the name of the 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 (and how that aligns with the goals above), scope, implementation procedures, the individuals responsible for the management of the project, the 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 are strongly encouraged to secure matching outside funds. Fund requests should remain under \$20,000.

Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file by **Monday, October 16, 2023**, 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 2024 Board Meeting.

Proposals should be submitted to Kristen McGuire via e-mail at kmcguire@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen or Norbert.

Call for Applications**Anthony Grano Fellowship Applications**

The AAEA Trust is now accepting applications for the Anthony Grano Scholarship Award for 2024. Two scholarships of \$1,250 will be awarded to academically competent, highly motivated students in agricultural economics or a closely related discipline with an interest in agricultural policy and the policy formulation process. The scholarship will support recipients to travel for one week to Washington, DC to meet with senior staff from USDA, Congressional offices, agricultural trade associations, farm and commodity organizations, and NGO's relevant to their policy interests.

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 **Monday, October 16, 2023**.

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 of applicant's choice (2-5 pages)
3. Current CV
4. A copy of university transcripts
5. Letter of recommendation from department head. Department Head must be willing to match the funds if their nominee is selected

Applications should be submitted in a single space, 12 Font Size, 1" margins, and PDF format to Kristen McGuire, AAEA Executive Director, at kmcguire@aaea.org. Failure to provide any of the required components of the application package will result in its rejection. Read through testimonials from past Grano Fellows on the [AAEA website](#).

Call for Applications**Uma Lele AERA India/AAEA Mentorship Program**

The AERA along with one representative from AAEA will play a facilitating role in the selection of Indian students/young professionals to participate in the mentorship program. The offer and themes for each year will be published in one of the issues of Agricultural Economics Research Review (AERR) and recommendation of the Association shall be sent to AAEA for Award of the grant. The following criteria were agreed for screening and recommendation of the candidate(s).

- a.) The program shall be open to doctoral and post-doctoral candidates and the maximum age of the candidate should not be more than 35 years
- b.) Masters/PhD degree in agricultural economics/economics with evident contribution to agricultural economics research
- c.) The candidate should give an undertaking to publish at least one research article in a journal of national/international repute as an outcome of the mentorship work
- d.) The candidate will attend the AAEA Annual Meeting
- e.) The candidate will work with an AAEA Member mentor

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

Testimonials from past Grano Fellows are available on the [AAEA website](#).

Applications should be submitted in a single PDF format to Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aaea.org by **Monday, October 16, 2023**. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

Call for Applications Sylvia Lane Mentor Fellowship

The Sylvia Lane Mentor Fellowship provides an opportunity for early career women 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 2024 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 **Monday, October 16, 2023**.

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 Kristen McGuire, at kmcguire@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

Call for Applications**McCorkle Scholarship Applications**

The AAEA Trust Committee is accepting applications for the 2024 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 **Monday, October 16, 2023.**

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 the Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

Call For Applications**Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award for Women**

The Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Trust is now accepting applications for the Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award for Women. The Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award for Women supports a mentorship relationship between an early career woman agricultural, resource and environmental economist from low income and lower-middle income countries, and a mentor who is a member of the AAEA. 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.

The purpose of the award is to promote high quality research of a policy/problem solving nature, by fostering research collaboration between the scholar and mentor. Research topics should fall within the mission of the AAEA (www.aaea.org/about-aaea), but preference will be given to topics focusing on countries that are facing food and nutrition insecurity, and/or environmental pressures.

The total amount of the award is up to USD \$5,000. Of this, up to USD \$4,500 will be allocated to the scholar and up to USD 500 to the mentor. The award to the scholar is intended to cover travel, registration, and related costs of the scholar to attend a meeting organized by the AAEA or the ICAE where both the mentor and the scholar can meet. The award may also be used to cover travel costs to the mentor's workplace. The amount allocated to the mentor can be used for travel and other expenses during the fellowship period. The AAEA will waive registration fee for both the scholar and the mentor for the duration of the fellowship. AAEA will also waive annual membership fee for the scholar for the duration of the fellowship.

Women scholars, who are either within one year of obtaining a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, or related field, or within five years of having completed Ph.D. and are citizens of and reside in a low income and lower-middle income country are eligible to apply. Ph.D. students studying in countries that are not considered low-income economies and lower-middle-income economies may also apply, but they must be

close to completing their degree and planning to permanently reside in a low-income or a lower-middle-income country by the end of 2024. Mentors can reside in any part of the world, but they must be AAEA members.

To apply, scholars should submit the following:

1. Recent CV
2. Research proposal outlining the research project that the applicant will work on with his or her mentor (maximum 3 single-spaced pages). Applicants are advised to discuss the proposal with a prospective mentor before applying.
3. Letter of recommendation from the applicant's department head/supervisor stating that the institution supports the applicant's participation.
4. Name and details of the mentor. If the scholar has not yet decided on a mentor, they may state this and seek input from the selection committee. The selection committee will make every attempt to help identify appropriate mentors but will do so only for the selected applicants.
5. Letter of intent to collaborate from the proposed mentor if the applicant already has a mentor.
6. Budget

Applications should be submitted in a single PDF format to Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aaea.org by **Monday, October 16, 2023**. If you have any questions, please contact Mary by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

Call for Applications Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award

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 view 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 \$4,500 can be allocated for travel expenses for the scholar to visit the mentor's workplace and/or to meet with the mentor at a professional meeting. 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 2024. 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 Kristen McGuire at kmcguire@aaea.org by **Monday, October 16, 2023**. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen by email or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

FREE Virtual 2023 Session

<i>Session Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Link</i>
Climate-Smart Markets and Practices on U.S. Livestock Farms	October 5	11:00 am – 2:00 pm Central	Zoom Link

AAEA Farm Bill Subject Matter Experts Survey

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

https://asumorrison.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dgktpv0ayjxQCW

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

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

Special Issue Timeline:

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

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

People Section

Arizona State University

- New Appointments: **Fei Qin**, Post-Doctoral Scholar; **Vikrant Kamble**, Post-Doctoral Scholar
- Return from Leave: **Timothy J. Richards**, University of Sydney
- Resignation: **Lauren Chenarides**

Auburn University

- Appointment Changes: **Adam Rabinowitz**, Associate Professor; **Jian Rong**, Senior Lecturer
- Awards: **Dennis Brothers**, NACAA, National Finalist Award in Search for Excellence in Farm and Business Management; **Wendiam Sawadgo** (co-author), AAEA, Outstanding Choices article; **Wenyong Li** (co-author), Food Safety and Nutrition Section of AAEA, Best Paper Award
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Eugene Adjei**, PhD, Post Doc, University of Saskatchewan; **Yousef Alkilany**, PhD, Post Doc, University of Missouri
- Honorary Position: **Ruiqing Miao**, Associate Editor, Natural Resource Modeling, 2023–2026

Colorado State University

- Awards: **Dawn Thilmany**, AAEA, Fellow; **Hayley Chouinard**, Denver Business Journal and the Colorado Farm Bureau, Who's Who in Agriculture – Honoree; **Jo Smeby**, Denver Business Journal and the Colorado Farm Bureau, Who's Who in Agriculture – Rising Star; **Samantha Ayoub**, Farm Foundation, Agricultural Scholar; **Samantha Ayoub**, AAEA, GSS Policy Communications Competition Winner
- New Appointments: **Chenarides, Lauren**, Assistant Professor; **Magnan, Nicholas**, Associate Professor; **Woerman, Matthew**, Assistant Professor
- Appointment changes: **Alessandro Bonanno**, Professor; **Joshua Berning**, Professor; **Dawn Thilmany**, Director of USDA Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Center
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Nathan Palardy**, Assistant Professor, University of Florida, Department of Food and Resource Economics; **Skylar Schuck**, Analyst, Colorado Governor's Budget Office
- Returns from Leave: **Becca Jablonski**, Fulbright Scholar sabbatical year in Wales
- Retirements: **Norm Dalsted**

Florida A&M University

- Appointment Change: **Michee Lachaud**, Associate Professor
- Award: **Daniel Solis**, Florida A&M University, Research Excellence Award 2023
- Honorary Position: **Michael Thomas**, Emeritus Professor, Florida A&M University

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- New Appointments: **Maria Kalaitzanodakes**, Assistant Professor, Economics of Food Policy; **Gerald Mashange**, Assistant Professor, Ag Finance & Risk Mgmt; **Tapiwa Sigauke**, Teaching Assistant Professor,

Foundational Fin Planning; **Ailie Elmore**, Instructor, Personal Fin Planning; **Meredith Blumthal**, Instructor, Food & Agribusiness Mgmt

- Appointment Change: **Sarah Janzen**, Associate Professor on Indefinite Tenure
- Awards: **Joe Janzen**, AAEA, Distinguished Extension and Outreach Program Award; **Angela Lyons**, University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign College of ACES, 2023 Senior Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching; **Craig Lemoine**, University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign College of ACES, 2023 John Clyde and Henrietta Downey Spitler Teaching Award; **Sandy Dall'erba**, 2023: Martin Beckmann Best paper award; **Yilan Xu**, American Council on Consumer Interests, Richard L. D. Morse Mid–Career Award
- Returns from Leave: **Sandy Dall'erba**; **Yilan Xu**
- Leaves: **Peter Christensen**, Stanford, Sabbatical AY 2023–2024; **Gary Schnitkey**, Illinois Corn Growers Association, Sabbatical AY 2023–2024
- Resignations: **Amy Ando**; **Michel Robe**

International Food Policy Research Institute

- New Appointments: **Asraul Khan**, Research Analyst; **Olufemi Popoola**, Research Analyst; **Parviz Khakimov**, Senior Research Fellow/Country Program Leader, Tajikistan; **Marilia Magalhaes**, Senior Research Analyst; **James Allen IV**, Associate Research Fellow; **Pierre Mamboundou**, Associate Research Fellow; **Solange Zawadi**, Country Program Manager; **Monali Gupta**, Research Analyst; **Nada Shokry**, Research Associate; **Ke Kou**, Research Assistant; **Sonali Katoch**, Research Analyst; **Alixandra Underwood**, Research Analyst; **Nicholus Zaw**, Research Analyst; **Payal Soneja**, Research Analyst; **Jose Luis Torres Chavez**, Research Analyst; **Kenneth Strzepek**, Senior Research Fellow; **Rishabh Mukerjee**, Research Analyst; **Jodel Pierre**, Project Manager
- Resignations: **Francisco Barba**; **Phoo Pye Zone**
- Award: **Charlotte Hebebrand and Joseph Glauber**, AAEA, Quality of Communication Award

Kansas State University

- Awards: **Jason Bergtold**, AAEA, Presidential Recognition Award; **Brian Briggeman**, AAEA, Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program, More than 10 years of Experience; **Brian Briggeman**, Gamma Sigma Delta, Outstanding Teaching Award; **Allen Featherstone**, Kansas State University, University Distinguished Professor; **Dan O'Brien**, WAEA, Outstanding Extension Career Award; **Edward Perry**, AAEA, Honorable Mention: Outstanding American Journal of Agricultural Economics Article Award; **Jesse Tack**, SAEA, Outstanding JAAE Article Award; **Jesse Tack**, WAEA, Outstanding Published Research Award; Ukraine–Russia Project (**Allen Featherstone**, **Antonina Broyaka**, **Dan O'Brien**, **Gregg Ibendahl**, **Brian Briggeman**, **Glynn Tonsor**, **Jude Kastens**, **Guy Allen**, and **Rich Llewelyn**), WAEA, Outstanding Extension Project Award; **Nelson Villoria**, MapBiomass, Distinguished MapBiomass Research Award; **Watler Ac Pangan**, **Priyanka Sharma**, **Catherine Obiribea Ofori–Bah**, **Lonnie Hobbs Jr.**, and **Manoj Sharma**, IFAMA, 1st Place, Graduate Student Case Study; **Justin Bina**, Gamma Sigma Delta, Outstanding Ph.D. Graduate Research Award; **Hunter Biram**, SAEA, Outstanding JAAE Article Award; **Lonnie Hobbs, Jr.**, Kansas State University, Presidential Graduate Teaching Assistant Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching; **Lonnie Hobbs, Jr.**, AAEA, TLC Graduate Student Teaching Award; **Lonnie Hobbs Jr.**, Gamma Sigma Delta, Outstanding Ph.D. Graduate Teaching Award; **Lonnie Hobbs Jr.**, Kansas State University Alumni Association, Robinson Family Multicultural Leadership Awards; **Adetola Lamidi**, MANRRS, 3rd in the Graduate Research Poster Contest; **Francis Tsiboe**, WAEA, Outstanding Published Research Award
- New Appointments: **Lonnie Hobbs, Jr.**, Assistant Professor

University of Minnesota

- New Appointment: **Danielle Becker**, Associate Librarian, Waite Library
- Awards: **Marc Bellemare**, AAEA, Fellow 2023; **Misty Heggeness**, University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics, Outstanding Alumni Award; **Jim LeVoir**, University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics, Outstanding Alumni Award; **Scott Cordes**, University of Minnesota Department of Applied Economics, Outstanding Alumni Award

University of Missouri

- Retirements: **Randall Westgren**, 15 years of service; **Michael Cook**, 34 years of service; **Raymond Massey**, 28 years of service

Purdue University

- Appointment Changes: **Joseph Balagtas**, Professor; **Todd H. Kuethe**, Professor
- New Appointments: **Joseph Balagtas**, Interim Director, Center for Food Demand Analysis & Sustainability; **Brady Brewer**, MS/MBA Program Director; **Bernhard Dalheimer**, Assistant Professor in Macroeconomics & Trade; **Chad Fiechter**, Assistant Professor in Agribusiness Finance; **Laura Montenovo**, Assistant Professor in State & Local Finance; **Jake Ricker-Gilbert**, Interim Associate Department Head; **Carson Reeling**, Interim Graduate Chair; **Guy Tchuente**, Assistant Professor in Quantitative Methods in Spatial Analysis; **Nicole Olynk Widmar**, Interim Department Head
- Awards: **Holly Wang**, AAEA, Fellow; **Valentin Verdier** and **Carson Reeling**, AAEA, Quality of Research Discovery Award; **Valerie Kilders** and Vincenzina Caputo, AAEA, IBES Best Paper Award; **Haden Comstock**, AAEA, Outstanding Master's Thesis; **Elizabeth Fraysse**, **Fei Qin**, and **Yi Wang**, AAEA, USDA AMS-GSS Competition Local Food Economics Data Visualization Challenge (in-person), 1st place; **Xiaoqi Wang**, **Mohammad Rezoanul Hoque**, and **Eugene Nuworsu**, AAEA, USDA AMS-GSS Competition Local Food Economics Data Visualization Challenge (virtual), 1st place; **Margaret Lippsmeyer**, **Yingxin Tan**, and **Diamila Kane**, AAEA, AEM-GSS Case Study Competition, Top-3; **Ken Foster**, Purdue University College of Agriculture, Student Choice Award and Spotlight Educator Award; **Nicole Olynk-Widmar**, Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Best Reviewer More Than 7 Years Experience; **Ariana Torres**, **Michael Delgado**, and **Maria Marshall**, Small Business Institute, 2023 Matthew Sonfield Research Award

Texas Tech University

- New Appointment: **Yuyuan Che**, Assistant Professor
- Awards: **Nathan Holtman**, AAEA, Outstanding Master's Thesis; **Nathan Holtman**, WAEA, Outstanding Master's Thesis

Virginia Tech

- New Appointments: **Nicolas Legrand**, Research Assistant Professor; **Pedro Queiroz**, Instructor; **Le Wang**, Professor and David M. Kohl Chair; **Chunbei Wang**, Associate Professor
- Award: **Klaus Moeltner**, AAEA, Distinguished Teaching Award Graduate Teaching- Ten of More Years'
- Retirements: **Mary Marchant**, 34 years of Service; **David Orden**, 39 years of service

Government Relations & Washington Update

September 2023

Congress Set to Return from August Recess

Congress will return to Washington after August recess to a busy agenda with only a few legislative days remaining in the fiscal year. The House and Senate have yet to complete any of the 12 annual appropriations bills, setting up the prospect of a government shutdown if Congress doesn't act before October 1st. The most likely outcome is a short-term continuing resolution. The Biden administration has formally asked Congress to pass a short-term funding package. Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell have both indicated support for a continuing resolution and House Speaker McCarthy has also signaled that he would go along with that approach. However, McCarthy faces potential opposition from some House Republicans who are hesitant to extend funding without taking action on overall government spending levels and other priorities at the same time. President Biden is also requesting \$44 billion in emergency spending to go along with the continuing resolution that would fund disaster assistance and the war in Ukraine.

Congress also faces the expiration of the Farm Bill at the end of September. While committee staff have worked through the August recess to advance Farm Bill preparations, House and Senate Agriculture Committee leaders have acknowledged it is unlikely that they will complete the Farm Bill reauthorization before the end of September. It is likely that a short-term extension will be considered to maintain authorities while Congress works to complete the Farm Bill.

ERS Releases Latest Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade

On August 31st, USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) has released its latest [Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade](#). According to the report, U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal year 2024 are projected at \$172.0 billion, down \$5.5 billion from the forecast for FY 2023. The reduction is largely due to lower exports of soybeans, soybean meal, and dairy products. Overall livestock, poultry, and dairy exports are projected at \$37.6 billion, down \$1.4 billion from FY 2023. Agricultural exports to China are forecast at \$30.0 billion, \$3.0 billion lower from FY 2023, driven by weaker outlook for soybeans, dairy, and beef. Agricultural exports to Mexico and Canada are forecast at \$28.2 billion and \$27.5 billion, respectively, both \$300 million lower from FY 2023. U.S. agricultural imports in FY 2024 are forecast at \$199.5 billion, \$3.0 billion higher than the revised FY 2023 estimate due to higher imports of horticultural and livestock products and stabilizing global prices.

ERS Publishes International Food Security Assessment

In August, ERS published its [International Food Security Assessment for 2023–2033](#). ERS studied food security in 83 low- and middle-income countries and found that food security is estimated to improve in 2023. Growth in per capita income and easing of international and domestic food commodity prices are helping improve food security. According to ERS estimates, 228.9 million fewer people will face food insecurity than in 2022. However, estimated food insecurity remains elevated due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, high food commodity prices, and risks associated with the ongoing war in Ukraine. Despite challenges in the near-term outlook, food security is projected to improve in the next 10 years. By 2033, the number of food insecure people in the 83 IFSA countries is projected to be 385.9 million, 66.1 percent less than the number of people than in 2023. ERS is holding a [webinar at 1pm eastern on September 7th](#) to review the report. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

Other News

Calls for contribution to Special issue in Agriculture and Human Values:

Farm households' social and economic needs and the Future of Agriculture

Special issue editors: Florence Becot, National Farm Medicine Center – Shoshanah Inwood, The Ohio State University – Jeff Hopkins, USDA ERS – Becca B.R. Jablonski, Colorado State University – Allie Bauman, Colorado State University – Jessica Crowe, USDA ERS – Katherine Lim, USDA ERS – Ashley Spalding, USDA ERS

Efforts to recruit and retain the next generation of farmers have traditionally focused on supporting the farm business through a focus on access to land, capital, and business management skills. While addressing these barriers are important, these efforts are likely insufficient as they fail to consider the full suite of social and economic challenges faced by farm households. From a theoretical standpoint, farm families are embedded in a complex agri-family system. Within the micro-level of this system, the farm household and the farm operation are interconnected through the constant exchange of resources (i.e. time and money). Challenges faced by the farm business can therefore have negative consequences on the farm household, and likewise, challenges faced by the farm household can negatively impact the farm business. Despite these theoretical insights and some empirical evidence that farm families experience household-level challenges connected to health insurance and health care, childcare, and insufficient household income, we know little about how household challenges impact the farm business. Directly connected to this knowledge gap is a limited understanding of the ways in which existing social programs and policies (which are specifically designed to meet these needs) may support farm sector profitability, survivability, resilience, and transition.

We invite theoretical, empirical, and discussion papers at the intersection of farm households' social and economic needs, social programs and policies, and farm business viability for a special issue in the journal *Agriculture and Human Values*. Farm households' social and economic needs include, but are not limited to: access to health insurance and health care, dependent care (child, elder, home health care), affordable housing, nutrition and food security, poverty, and retirement. The papers can be based on new research or can revisit data previously analyzed with a new eye towards the focus of this special issue. This special issue is connected to an upcoming virtual conference on the topic on September 13th. While the conference is focused on the U.S., farm households' social and economic needs are not unique to the U.S. and the special issue will provide an opportunity to explore these needs in a range of countries. Free conference registration [here](#).

Potential research questions include:

- What are farm households' lived realities meeting their social and economic needs?
- In what ways do the social and economic needs of the household shape decisions connected to the farm operation's production and marketing decisions?
- How do sex, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and geography intersect with and influence farm household's social and economic needs and the farm enterprise experiences, decision-making and trajectory?
- To what extent can federal and state social safety net programs and policies bolster and increase the profitability, viability, survivability, or resilience of the farm operation?
- What theoretical, data and/or methodological limitations are limiting the exploration of farm families' lived realities meeting their social and economic needs and the intersection with farm business development and viability?

Submission guidelines and deadlines:

- **September 18, 2023:** email your abstracts up to 350-words to becot.florence@marshfieldresearch.org;
- September 25, 2023: decisions on invitations to submit an article to the special issue;
- November 30, 2023: paper submission deadline.

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

Date: February 6–9, 2024

Venue: Australian National University Campus, Canberra, Australia

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

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

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

This conference will provide a forum for our Society to explore new opportunities for research and development, and policy practice that can address these grand challenges in securing efficient, effective, and

equitable outcomes. Distinguished researchers and professionals will present keynote presentations to inspire and stimulate discussions at the AARES 2024 conference.

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

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

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



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Volume 45, Issue 18–September 2023

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