I began my term as President thinking and writing about how we, as professionals and as a professional association, define and certify the quality of our work as agricultural and applied economists. I noted that in our work in academia, government, and the private and non-profit sectors, we face common questions about quality standards, certification to those standards, and communicating about quality among ourselves and with others. As my term as President draws to a close, I believe these issues continue to be at the heart of how AAEA serves you, our members, and society. The AAEA Board’s on-going strategic planning is focused on supporting high quality work through communicating our work out through multiple outlets; innovating with our annual meeting, stand-alone symposia, and other AAEA events; and supporting mentoring programs.

Our association is built on a foundation of mutual mentoring and a culture of engagement. At my home institution, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, our Center for Teaching and Faculty Development describes the Mutual Mentoring approach as recognizing that individuals will need and want mentorship from a network of mentors, each of whom has specific strengths to offer in terms of perspective and advice. The mutual mentoring approach also recognizes that mentoring is rarely one-way; the mentor learns from the mentee as well as vice versa, making for a mentoring partnership. Importantly, an individual’s mentoring network can be significantly strengthened through mutual mentoring relationships with others who are at a similar career stage be it, for example, undergraduate or graduate student, assistant professor, new researcher at a government agency, associate or full professor, or new chair or branch chief. Each of these career stages demands the development of new abilities by us as individuals. As your professional organization, AAEA through its members and staff provides platforms for effective mutual mentoring to take place, with a special emphasis on early career professionals. Strengthening and building opportunities for mutual mentoring is in my view a key direction for AAEA in the next years.

Continued on page 2
Mutual mentoring is also a major component of the AAEA’s Culture of Engagement. Our upcoming annual meeting in Minneapolis embodies this high level of engagement with plenary sessions, invited papers, symposia, presented papers, posters, Section Tracks, and undergraduate and graduate competitions where you and your colleagues will be presenting your work and receiving direct feedback that supports the quality of your work. And no doubt that mutual mentoring will extend to conversations during coffee breaks, receptions, and other opportunities to meet and exchange ideas. I look forward to meeting and talking with you in Minneapolis! I also look forward to welcoming Jill McCluskey as President-Elect taking office at this meeting and David Just and Holly Wang who will be taking office as Directors.

The Culture of Engagement is supported by the very high quality of involvement of AAEA members in all aspects of AAEA’s work. I thank the Committee Chairs and Members who agreed to take on important roles in guiding the association this year and the Leadership of the Sections, all of whom served so well. I also thank our AAEA staff Brian Mondragón Jones (Executive Director), Sarah Kenner, Kristen Wright, Anna Douangphachanh, and Angela Ludwig for their dedicated and very effective management of the AAEA.

And, finally, our association has benefitted greatly from the service of Richard Sexton (Past-President), Jayson Lusk (Director), and Dawn Thilmany McFadden (Director) over the last three years. Thank you for your commitment to the AAEA’s Culture of Engagement.

See you all in Minneapolis!

Julie A. Caswell
AAEA President

AAEA Annual Business Meeting
Monday, July 28, 8:00 am-8:30 am

AAEA’s Annual Business Meeting will be held in Minneapolis on Monday, July 28 at the Hyatt Regency, Nicollet Ballroom ABC. This meeting gives members the chance to discuss issues facing the association and share your comments or concerns. Please consider attending and contributing to the conversation.

Join AAEA at the 2015 ASSA Annual Conference in Boston, MA!
AAEA News

Volunteer Judges Needed for the GSS/AEM Case Study Competition

The Graduate Student (GSS) and Agribusiness Economics Management (AEM) Sections of AAEA need your assistance. We need a total of eight to twelve judges for the preliminary rounds. The time commitment is two to three hours on Sunday morning (July 27), depending on the number of teams.

This is a very rewarding experience for the graduate students. Judges in the past years also enjoyed the competition. Those interested in participating may contact Aslihan Spaulding (spaulding@ilstu.edu) or Brandon McFadden (brandon.mcfadden@okstate.edu).

The GSS and AEM thank you in advance for your assistance!

Aslihan Spaulding
AEM Chair

Brandon McFadden
GSS Chair

AAEA Trust News

Gail L. Cramer Appreciation Club to be Chartered in Minneapolis

The AAEA Trust is pleased to announce that the Gail L. Cramer Appreciation Club has successfully raised the $12,500 in donations necessary to have the Club officially chartered at the 2014 AAEA Annual Meeting in Minneapolis. Thanks to the efforts of the appreciation club donors and co-organizers, members will be able to show their respect for the work that Dr. Cramer has done to advance the profession, by contributing to the Gail L. Cramer Appreciation Club.

During the AAEA Awards & Fellows Recognition Ceremony on Monday, July 28, Dr. Cramer will be presented with a calligraphic plaque that celebrates the official chartering of the Club in his honor.

To donate to the Gail L. Cramer Appreciation Club, please contact the AAEA Business Office (info@aaea.org).
AAEA/AARES Heading South Call for Applications

We are pleased to invite submissions for the 2014 Heading South Award.

The Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) and the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) through the AAEA Trust will jointly offer this travel award to attend the 2015 AARES Conference in Rotorua, New Zealand. It is available to members of AARES or AAEA normally resident in North America. Applicants for the award can be a member of either AARES or AAEA but must be a member of AARES to participate in the conference.

The objective of the award is to provide the winner with an opportunity for professional and personal development and international professional and cultural exchange. The award will have a value of US $3,000 to be used to assist the winner to participate in the 2015 Annual Conference of AARES to be held in Rotorua, New Zealand from February 10–13, 2015.

Selection Process

The 2014 Heading South Selection Committee will be chaired by the AAEA President, Barry Goodwin. Other members will include the President-Elect of AARES, Prof. Alan Randall, another member of AARES, usually the president of the North America Branch, and another member of AAEA.

Applications should include:
- a paper for presentation at the AARES Annual Conference in Rotorua, for which the applicant is the sole or first author and which represents their original and unpublished work,
- a one-page biographical statement, and
- a one-page statement in support of their application, indicating what they would hope to accomplish through the award, why they would be deserving of the award, and confirming that they would be unable to attend the conference without this financial support.

Submission Deadlines and Details

Electronic submissions (in PDF form) for this award must be emailed to Brian Mondragón Jones (bmjones@aaea.org) by Friday, August 29, 2014 (for travel in February 2015).
University of Arizona

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Thiagarajah Subramaniam, PhD, Senior Associate, Modeling, Discover Financial Services, Phoenix, AZ; Xiangrui "Alex" Wang, M.S., PhD program in Economics, Washington State University

University of California, Davis

- Awards: J. Edward Taylor, 2014 UC Davis Academic Senate, Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award.
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Derek Farnsworth, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Florida; Ghada Elabed, PhD, Researcher, Mathematica’s Center for International Policy Research and Evaluation in Washington, DC; Jean Paul Pétraud, PhD, Research Associate, MPAQ International in Washington, DC; Kailin Kroetz, PhD, Fellow, Resources for the Future in Washington, DC; Wei Zhang, PhD, Assistant Professor, Connecticut College; Karen Thome, PhD, Research Agricultural Economist, USDA ERS, Food Security and Development Branch; Anil Bhargava, PhD, Post-doctoral Researcher, University of Michigan; Jay Abolofia, PhD, Post-doctoral Researcher, Environmental Science and Policy, UC Davis; John Bovay, PhD, Research Agricultural Economist, USDA ERS
- Awards: Alex F. McCalla, 2014 University of Alberta Honorary Doctor of Science Degree; Jay Abolofia, Best Student and Best Aquaculture Paper Awards at the International Institute of Fisheries, Economics and Trade Conference in Brisbane, Australia on July 7, 2014 for his paper, “Putting a Price on Lice: Quantifying the Biological and Economic Impacts of Sea Lice on Farmed Salmonids.”
- Return from Leave: Travis Lybbert, Associate Professor, sabbatical in Ghana, July 1, 2014.

Colorado State University

- New Appointment: Eliza Poet, Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs
- Awards: Kellie Enns, Colorado State University, Jack E. Cermak Advising Award, April 2014; Dustin Pendell, College of Agricultural Sciences, Outstanding Researcher, May 2014; Chris Goemans, College of Agricultural Sciences, Shepardson Meritorious Teaching/NACTA Award, May 2014; Clay Miller, College of Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Student Leadership Award, May 2014; Marshall Frasier, Western Agricultural Economics Association, WAEA Outstanding Teacher (10 or more years), June 2014
- Returns from Leave: James Pritchett; Marco Costanigro
- Resignations: Jay Parsons; Kelly Moyer

University of Connecticut

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduate: Deep Mukherjee, PhD in Agricultural & Resource Economics, Assistant Professor at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Resignation: Chad Cotti
- Visitor: Huan Dong, Doctoral Student, China Agricultural University, Visiting PhD Student, August 1, 2014–July 31, 2015
University of Idaho

- New Appointment: Ekaterina Vorotnikova, Assistant Professor
- Award: Amy Hilland, AAEA Outstanding M.S. Thesis Award and WAEA Outstanding MS Thesis Award (Dr. Stephen Devadoss, Advisor)
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Garima Tyagi, M.S., RaboAgriFinance; Kevin Decker, M.S., Washington Sea Grant

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

- Appointment Change: Kathy Baylis, Associate Professor
- Awards: Scott Irwin, Phil Garcia, Aaron Smith and Mike Adjemian, AAEA, AAEA Quality of Communication Award for Non-Convergence in Agricultural Markets Series; farmdocDaily, AAEA, AAEA Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Group Award; Bruce J. Sherrick, University of Illinois, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Paul A. Funk Award; Paul E. McNamara, University of Illinois, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Faculty Award for Global Impact; MEAS, University of Illinois, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Team Award for Excellence; Paul B. Stoddard, University of Illinois, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Teaching Associate Teaching Award.
- Retirement: Joyce Allen-Smith, 23 years.
- Resignation: Nicholas Brozovic

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

- New appointments: Jenna Golan, Research Analyst; Lawrence Haddad, Senior Research Fellow; Manfred Zeller, Head Policy Research, HarvestPlus
- Awards: Kristin Davis received the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE) Outstanding Achievement Award at AIAEE's annual conference, held this year in Miami, Florida
- Honorary Position: Kristin Davis was elected 2014–2015 President of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE).

Kansas State University

- Awards: Melissa Lynes, doctoral student in agricultural economics, Manhattan, has been invited to attend the Lindau Meeting, which is an open exchange of economic expertise and to inspire cross-cultural and intergenerational encounters among economists worldwide; Keith Harris earned the K–State Presidential Mentoring Fellowship; Jason Bergtold received K–State's Presidential Award for Undergraduate Teaching; Hikaru Peterson received the K–State College of Agriculture Student Council Faculty of the Semester Award; Barry Flinchbaugh received the 2014 Agricultural Leadership and Excellence from the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City on June 2; Matthew Herrington earned Outstanding Masters Thesis for "An Evaluation of Changing Profit Risks in Kansas Cattle Feeding Operations". His major professors were Ted Schroeder and Glynn Tonsor. He is now manager of Commodity Research and Product Development with the CME Group; Bryon Parman earned Outstanding PhD Dissertation "Economies of Scale for Data Envelopment Analysis with a Kansas Farm Application". His major professors were Vincent
Amanor–Boadu and Allen Featherstone. He is now assistant professor for the Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University; Krishna Pokharel, Rulianda Wibowo, Frank K. Nti for winning the People’s Choice Award for the 2014 Energy Symposium hosted by the K–State Center for Sustainable Energy. 

- Retirements: Bob Burton, Professor, 30 years of service, specialized in risk and return in whole-farm or ranch management; Orlen Grunewald, Professor, 36 years of service, specialized in agribusiness management, agribusiness marketing, and computer applications. 
- Resignation: Kevin Dhuyvetter, Professor

**University of Maryland**

- Appointment Changes: James C. Hanson, Professor; Roberton Williams III, Professor
- Awards: Dan Werner (Ph.D. candidate), U.S. Association of Energy Economics, Dennis J. O’Brien Best Student Paper Award

**Mississippi State University**

- Appointment Change: John Michael Riley, Associate Extension Professor
- Retirement: Kenneth W. Hood, 33 years of service

**University of Missouri**

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Catharine Weber, MS, Teagasc Walsh PhD Fellowship at the University College Dublin. 
- Returns from Leave: Peter Klein
- Retirements: Jan Dauve, 27 years

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

- New Appointments: Simanti Banerjee, Assistant Professor; Jay Parsons, Associate Professor.
- Award: Ron Hanson, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Alumni Association 2014 Faculty Legacy Award

**North Dakota State University**

- Retirement: Kathleen Tweeten, 29 years
- Visitor: Qiqi Wang, Assistant Professor, Shandong University, China. 3 weeks.

**The Ohio State University**

- News & Other Stories: Mark Partridge, AEDE featured in The Plain Dealer, “Cleveland Indians offer their own study to support sin tax request”, April 4, 2014; Mark Partridge, AEDE featured on the Carolina Journal Online, “No to Claptrap and Flimflam”, April 14, 2014; Matt Roberts, AEDE featured in The Blade, “Harsh winter does damage to Ohio wheat crop”, April 29, 2014; Cameron Thraen, AEDE featured in Dairy Herd Management, “Farm Bill dairy program webinar is March 26”, March 24, 2014; Cameron Thraen, AEDE featured in Dairy Herd Management, “California FMMO: Keeping our eyes on the ball”, April 5, 2014; Cameron Thraen, AEDE featured in Capital Press, “Cheese price hemorrhaging may be over”, April 14, 2014; Cameron Thraen, AEDE featured in Capital Press, “Federal milk marketing order for California raises questions”, April 24, 2014; Barry Ward, AEDE, featured in Farm and
Dairy, “Is a limited liability co. right for you?” March 27, 2014; Carl Zulauf, AEDE featured on RFD TV, “USDA: Farmers face two choices in ARC program”, March 19, 2014.

**Oklahoma State University**
- New Appointment: Dr. R. Max Melstrom, Assistant Professor
- Awards: Dr. B. Wade Bronsen, Regents Professor and A.J. & Susan Jacques Chair, has been named a 2014 Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA).

**Purdue University**
- New Appointment: Dr. Michael Wetzstein will join the Department in August. He will be teaching in the undergraduate and graduate areas with research in applied economics.
- Appointment Changes: Dr. Maria Marshall, Professor; Dr. Nicole Widmar, Associate Professor
- Awards: Juan Sesmero has received the C–FARE/AAEA Early Career Professionals Leadership Award; Professor Emeritus John M. Connor was the recipient of the Alfred E. Kahn Award for Antitrust Achievement, given annually by the American Antitrust Institute as its highest honor; Dr. Elizabeth Yeager has been selected for the Teaching for Tomorrow Award from Purdue University; Dr. Lawrence DeBoer – Richard L. Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher, awarded by the College of Agriculture, Purdue University; Dr. Elizabeth Yeager – Richard L. Kohls Early Career Award, awarded by the College of Agriculture, Purdue University; Dr. James Eales – David C. Pfendler Outstanding Undergraduate Counselor, awarded by the College of Agriculture, Purdue University; Dr. Timothy Baker – Outstanding Graduate Educator, awarded by the College of Agriculture, Purdue University

**Texas A&M University**
- Award: Tiffany Dowell, sworn into the Texas Bar Association
- New Hires: Nathan Harness, Instructional Associate Professor; Andrew Ropicki Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist–Marine Economics; Luis Ribera, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist–Int’l Trade & Transportation
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Jacob Garcia, JBS, Greeley, CO Ascend Leadership Trainee; Lauren Robinson, United Way, Baton Rouge, LA Community Impact Volunteer Manager; Jessica Sampson, Colorado State University, Denver, CO Extension Specialist, Ag Economist; Mark Goering, JBS, Greeley, CO Ascend Leadership Trainee; Aragon Sanchez, Inter–American Development Bank Consultant, Washington, D.C.

**USDA Economic Research Service**
- New Appointments: Joanna Brown, Agricultural Economist, Resource and Rural Economics Division; Daniel Prager, Economist, Resource and Rural Economics Division; Ashley Hungerford (North Carolina State University) Market and Trade Economics Division; Mirvat Sewadeh joined the Market and Trade Economics Division as the Assistant Director of Communications.
- Resignations: Jennifer Ifft; Michael Livingston
West Virginia University

- New Appointment: Xiaoli Etienne, Assistant Professor
- Appointment Changes: Gerard D’Souza, Director, Agricultural and Resource Economics
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: Nyakundi Michieka, PhD in Natural Resource Economics, Assistant Professor of Economics, California State University at Bakersfield.
- Resignation: Wesley Burnett

Job Openings

Please visit the new 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.

Join us

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