

President's Column

September 2014



As we head into fall, it is a good time to reflect on the summer's AAEA activities. The Minneapolis meeting was well-attended and included an excellent slate of invited and selected presentations. An

outstanding keynote was delivered by Brian Wansink from Cornell University. The excellent support of the EDI staff once again made for an excellent meeting. The AAEA Board of Directors held its biannual meeting in Minneapolis and work on a number of critical issues is proceeding.

Under Past-President Julie Caswell's excellent leadership, the Board undertook a series of "task-force" studies to address current issues of importance to the membership. One of the most important issues facing our membership involves "communicating out" activities. As scientists, we tend to focus our communication efforts largely within our narrow professional circles. Once a paper has been posted or accepted for publication, we often move to the next issue. Significant lags in publication time are an unavoidable part of the publication and written outreach process and it is often months before our work is circulated in published form and, once published, our work may not reach many important potential users of our research and outreach.

The AAEA Board is investigating avenues to address this deficiency. Communicating-out efforts typically occur through two primary avenues—communication with a lay-audience through popular media outlets and communication with policymakers and industry representatives. A small number of our professional colleagues seem to have mastered this activity but for most of us, our efforts often taper off once a paper is circulated in our own narrow circles. The Association is in the fortunate position of having resources that can be invested in addressing this shortcoming. Keith Coble is heading the effort to formulate a communications strategy that will better extend our research and outreach efforts. The Board intends to finalize plans at the January meeting. Your input into this planning process is very much valued. Please communicate any ideas, requests, or suggestions to Keith.

C-FARE continues to play an important role in these communication efforts. Caron Gala has done an excellent job in maintaining representation of the AAEA and its core issues in Washington. We continue to invest in ways to further develop our network among policymakers, their staff, and with industry representatives. I will be teaming with Caron

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over the coming months to explore new avenues for communicating in the Washington, DC community and with other important constituency groups.

The Board recently received a number of outstanding invited paper proposals for the winter ASSA meetings. Space constraints necessarily limited the number of slots allocated to the AAEA and we have six excellent sessions on the program. The role of invited papers and the proceedings issues that publish the papers is another issue that the Board is contemplating. Our excellent partners at Oxford University Press (OUP) continue to work with the Association to elevate the status of our publications within the scientific community.

A relatively recent development in the research community involves journal “impact factors.” The impact factor considers the number of citations per published article over the most recent two- and five-year periods. The metric is flawed in many ways but has become a standard in measuring the quality of research output in many circles. Our publications tend to have relatively long citation half-lives and this can tend to bias downward the impact factor as a measure of the impact of research. We definitely do not want the impact factor to have too much influence in shaping our publications but we cannot entirely ignore it. Invited papers and proceedings play an important and, in some cases, surprising role in our impact factors. These papers are often quite different from typical submitted papers. The topics may be more general and often include surveys and reviews of key issues. A relatively large number of papers are published and these papers tend to fall into two categories. Many papers are not cited at all, a fact that tends to lower impact factors. However, a result that I found surprising is the fact that some of the most cited papers that

contribute the most to our impact factors can be found in the proceedings.

These facts were in mind as the Board considered proposals. There are a few fundamental points that I want to emphasize to the membership. The Board recently decided to allow authors the choice of whether to have their paper considered for publication. The editors have the final say in what gets published and we have adopted an expedited review process for these submissions.

In my communications with this year’s session organizers, I have stressed my personal expectation that participation in a session necessarily carries with it an obligation to provide a written paper of publishable quality. I am concerned that the option to not furnish such a paper may carry with it a moral hazard effect if authors decide to withhold some of the better invited papers for other outlets. We all have the experience of a particular research topic turning out even better than expected. I want to encourage all organizers and authors to provide their papers and to invest the effort necessary to elevate the stature of proceedings publications.

Looking ahead, President-Elect Jill McCluskey and future Board members will have the important task of managing these sessions. I encourage everyone to start planning your invited paper submissions now. Please consider adding a paper to each session that includes a survey or overview of the issues relevant to the session. Such papers tend to trigger citations. Also keep these sessions in mind as your research develops over the coming months. Papers that may not be suitable for publication through normal submission channels may make excellent candidates for invited papers. Please consider acceptance of your proposal to involve an

implicit obligation to furnish a strong paper for review. We definitely do not want impact factors and similar such metrics to direct our research but there are simple things that we can do that will improve the stature of our research output and provide higher quality output to the users of this research.

Lastly, thank you to all of the authors and participants in the AAEA sessions taking place at the ASSA meeting in Boston. I encourage all

AAEA members attending ASSA to go to those sessions and show your support for your colleagues. Join us also for the TW Schultz Memorial Lecture being presented by Emily Oster, University of Chicago. Details about AAEA sessions and the TW Schultz event can be found on the [AAEA website](#). Hope to see you there.

Barry Goodwin
AAEA President



Crop Insurance and the 2014 Farm Bill: Implementing Change in U.S. Agricultural Policy October 8-9 • Louisville, KY

There is still time to register to attend the Crop Insurance and the 2014 Farm Bill: Implementing Change in U.S. Agricultural Policy symposium. Join AAEA on October 8–9 at the Marriott Downtown in Louisville. Topics include institutional and structural effects, conservancy, risk management, and [much more](#).

Register [online](#) or complete a [pdf form](#) and return it to the AAEA Business Office by the registration deadline, **Wednesday, September 24**.

Reserve your hotel room [online](#) or call 1–800–228–9290 and mention the AAEA symposium. The deadline to make your reservations is Tuesday, September 16.

We hope to see you in Louisville!

C–FARE Update

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS UPDATES

Stopgap Measure for FY15

Congress returned from recess this week. Since little work has been performed on appropriations, a stopgap measure or continuing resolution is needed. The House of Representatives released their version of the bill yesterday, with vote on the bill expected within the next week. Any continuing resolution will likely have an expiration date of December 11th.

Sequestration Guidance from OMB

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) annually issues a report on current appropriations as they relate to existing federal spending caps. This year's update, released on August 20, reports that most FY 2015 appropriations are under the mandated caps except for the Senate Defense appropriations bill. [Full report.](#)

NRC's BANR Releases AFRI Review

The Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Research Council has released the Review of the USDA Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) report which evaluates the value, relevance, quality, fairness, and flexibility of AFRI. This report also considers funding policies and mechanisms and identifies measures of the effectiveness and efficiency of AFRI's operation. The report concludes that: 1) AFRI plays a critical and unique role in the nation's overall R&D portfolio, but it has not been adequately given the resources needed to meet contemporary and likely future challenges; 2) AFRI is unnecessarily complex, difficult to depict clearly, and characterized by overlapping components that do not clearly align with priorities identified in authorizing legislation, 3) AFRI does not have clearly articulated plans to guide its priority-setting, management processes, and interagency collaboration, 4) AFRI's complex and diffuse management structure has made it difficult to efficiently and effectively manage the program. However, NIFA and its AFRI program are essential elements of USDA and will be critical for enhancing the knowledge base needed to successfully address important issues in agriculture, food, and natural resources. The content has been paraphrased from a released summary. To view the report please visit: http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record_id=18652.

BLUE RIBBON EXPERT PANEL CORNER

The Blue Ribbon Expert Panel – Grand Challenges Project

At the AAEA Annual Meeting, the C-FARE Blue Ribbon Expert Panel Members discussed the development of a "Grand Challenges" project for the agricultural and applied economics sciences. The aim of the project would be to frame the role of the agricultural and applied economics profession in addressing the societal grand challenges that drive federal investment and public-private partnerships. The event, which marked an early starting point for the project, included a short presentation on grand challenges. Several special guests, including USDA Economic Research Service Administrator, Dr. Mary Bohman; AAEA Past-President, Dr. Julie Caswell; and USDA NIFA National Program Leader, Dr. Robbin Shoemaker discussed USDA priorities and the value of 'communicating out' the important role of the discipline in addressing challenges.

The project's next steps will be to engage the Blue Ribbon Expert Panels further on the topic, as informed by high-level documents outlining societal challenges and R&D priority areas from the [President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology](#), the Office of Management and Budget (see above), and the [USDA REE Action Plan](#).

Joint EAAE/AAEA Seminar Consumer Behavior in a Changing World: FOOD, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

NAPLES, ITALY | **March 25-27, 2015**



Joint EAAE/AAEA Seminar

The main goal of the seminar is to provide an integrated multidisciplinary approach to the analysis of food consumption and consumer behavior. It aims to encourage broad discussion among economists, sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists and marketing scholars on the role of food consumption in the late modern society and on the need to adopt innovative tools for the analysis of consumer's behavior and choices.

For more information on the seminar, please visit the main page at <http://www.143eaae-aaea-seminar.org/>.

Abstract Submission

Participants who would like to present a paper are requested to submit an abstract in English (max 3500 keystrokes including spaces; Times New Roman font, size 12, double spacing) before **October 31, 2014** using the *Conf Tool Platform* available on the website of the seminar: <http://www.143eaae-aaea-seminar.org/>. The abstract should indicate: the question addressed, theoretical background, methods, results and potential for discussion.

October 31, 2014: Abstract submissions due

December 1, 2014: Notification of acceptance/rejection

February 28, 2015: Submission of full versions of accepted papers due

Download the [flyer for the call for papers](#) for more information.

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, Julie Caswell, at caswell@umass.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 6, 2014**, 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 2015 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 Julie.

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 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 2014. 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 6, 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by e–mail or by phone at (414) 918–3190. Awards will be announced in January 2015.

2014 Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship Award: Eugenie Maiga, Université de Koudougou

The 2014 Uma Lele Mentor Fellowship grant winner was Eugenie Maiga, Université de Koudougou. She is working with her mentor, Ralph Christy on a project titled: The Impact of Foreign Aid–financed versus Domestic Expenditures–financed Agricultural Training on Agricultural Productivity in Five African Countries.

This fellowship is supported by donations to the Uma Lele Special Purpose Fund of the AAEA Trust. The ultimate goal of the Uma Lele Special Purpose Fund is to create vibrant, long–lasting networks of scholars working on current and newly emerging challenges to economic development.

<http://www.aaea.org/trust/special-purpose-funds/uma-lele-mentor-fellowship-fund>

Dr. Uma Lele is a recognized international leader, thinker, and policy analyst with extensive research, operational and evaluation experience in the World Bank, the CGIAR and other international organizations and US universities. Her areas of work include food, agriculture, health, environment, global public goods, science and technology, and external assistance and partnerships. Dr. Lele is a fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association and India’s National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and she has been recognized as an Outstanding Alumna by Cornell University.

Call for Nominations: 2015 Fellows Award Nominations

The AAEA Fellows Selection Committee is inviting nominations for the 2015 AAEA Fellows Awards. The deadline for submission of nominations and supporting biographical documentation is **Monday, October 6, 2014**. Selection is based mainly on a continuous contribution to the advancement of agricultural and 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; 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 award, or outstanding teaching awards. 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, or 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 of the nominators within the eight page package. Nominations should be submitted as a single PDF file to Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org. Please contact Brian if you have any questions.

The 2015 Fellows Recognition Ceremony will be held as part of the 2015 AAEA & WAEA Joint Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Information on previous AAEA Fellows and the procedures used to select Fellows is available on the [AAEA Fellows page](#) of the AAEA website.

Luther G. Tweeten Scholarship Call for Applications

The Luther G. Tweeten Scholarship provides support for graduate student research on socioeconomic problems of Africa, especially addressing issues of food, population, and environment that affect economic development, poverty, and food security.

At least one (1) grant of up to \$2,000 will be awarded for use during the 2015 calendar year. The funding is designed to cover the costs associated with fieldwork in Africa such as research materials, programs, and/or travel expenses.

The application deadline is **October 6, 2014**. The award will be announced in January 2015.

To apply, please submit the following:

1. Description of the proposed research (maximum of 5 pages)
2. Itemized budget
3. Letter of support from the major advisor
4. Graduate transcript
5. Financial support for the proposed research expected to run concurrent with the Tweeten Scholarship
6. Timetable for research under the Tweeten Scholarship in the context of the candidate's overall graduate program

Applications should be submitted in a single PDF format to Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org by **October 6, 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by e-mail or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

The Luther G. Tweeten Special Purpose Fund was established to encourage and facilitate graduate student research on economic development, poverty, food security, and the environmental issues of Africa.

Dr. Tweeten spent more than 20 years as a professor of agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University, and is currently a professor emeritus of agricultural policy and trade at The Ohio State University, where he has been on the faculty since 1988. His extensive international experience in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America is highlighted in his more than 500 journal articles and papers and seven published books, as well as in his research in public policy and economic development and trade.

Dr. Tweeten served as President of the AAEA in 1981, was named a Fellow of the AAEA in 1983, and has received numerous AAEA awards for his research and writings. He was given the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southern Agricultural Economics Association in 2000, and earned the Henry A. Wallace Award for Distinguished Service to Agriculture in 1995 from his alma mater, Iowa State University.

Call for Applications: McCorkle Scholarship Applications

The AAEA Trust Committee is accepting applications for the 2015 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.

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 are due **October 6, 2014**, and should be submitted as a single PDF file to the Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by e-mail or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

Applications will be reviewed by the AAEA Trust Committee, who will make a recommendation to the Executive Board. Applicants will be notified about the status of their application by the end of January 2015.

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 2015 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 6, 2014**. The award will be announced in January 2015.

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 by **October 6, 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by e-mail or by phone at (414) 918-3190.

The Sylvia Lane Mentorship Fund was established by the Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) for the AAEA Trust. The purpose of the fund is to sponsor activities that encourage the academic and professional development of women conducting economic analyses of food, agricultural, or natural resource issues.

Sylvia Lane had a distinguished record of research and teaching in the areas of consumer credit, health care, rural health service delivery, food stamps, and other areas concerning low-income consumers. She was named a fellow of the AAEA in 1984, one of the first women to receive this honor. She served as a consultant to the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization and was a member of the President's Committee on Consumer Interests. She was a Professor Emerita of agricultural and resource economics at the University of California, Berkeley.

Call for Nominations: Travel Grants for Economists from Low Income & Lower-Middle Income Countries

The Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Trust invites nominations for economists from low and lower-middle income countries to be awarded full travel grants to attend the 2015 AAEA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA July 26-28, 2015. Nominees should be professional economists who are from and residing in a low income or lower-middle income country. A complete list of qualifying countries is available here, under the headings "Low-income economies" and "Lower-middle-income economies": http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups#Low_income. Or see list below.

Nominees should be working in one or more of the following fields or another closely related field of applied economics: Agribusiness Economics and Management, Agricultural economics, Economic development, Food and consumer economics, Regional Economics, or Resource and environmental economics.

Nominations should include:

1. Nominee's name, institution, postal address, and e-mail address.
2. Nominator's name, institution, postal address, and e-mail address.
3. Brief statement of support written by the nominator.
4. Brief statement of interest written by the nominee.
5. Proposed travel budget.
6. Paper (no longer than 20pp. double-spaced pages, including tables and figures) describing the research to be presented at the meetings

Eligible nominators include department chairs or administrators, advisors, or any AAEA member.

Nomination packages should be submitted electronically in a single PDF to Brian Mondragón Jones at bmjones@aaea.org by 5 pm CDT on **Monday, November 4, 2014**. If you have any questions, please contact Brian by e-mail or by phone (414) 918-3190.

Selected applicants will be scheduled to present their research (as a paper or poster) during the meeting. Details regarding presentation will be provided after the acceptance notices are sent out.

The funds for these travel grants are provided by a grant from USDA-ERS.

Low Income Economies

Afghanistan	Gambia, The	Nepal
Bangladesh	Guinea	Niger
Benin	Guinea-Bissau	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Haiti	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Kenya	Somalia
Cambodia	Korea, Dem Rep.	Tajikistan
Central African Republic	Liberia	Tanzania
Chad	Madagascar	Togo
Comoros	Malawi	Uganda
Congo, Dem. Rep	Mali	Zimbabwe
Eritrea	Mozambique	
Ethiopia	Myanmar	

Lower Middle Income Economies

Armenia	Kiribati	São Tomé and Príncipe
Bhutan	Kosovo	Senegal
Bolivia	Kyrgyz Republic	Solomon Islands
Cameroon	Lao PDR	South Sudan
Cabo Verde	Lesotho	Sri Lanka
Congo, Rep.	Mauritania	Sudan
Côte d'Ivoire	Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	Swaziland
Djibouti	Moldova	Syrian Arab Republic
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Mongolia	Timor-Leste
El Salvador	Morocco	Ukraine
Georgia	Nicaragua	Uzbekistan
Ghana	Nigeria	Vanuatu
Guatemala	Pakistan	Vietnam
Guyana	Papua New Guinea	West Bank and Gaza
Honduras	Paraguay	Yemen, Rep.
Indonesia	Philippines	Zambia
India	Samoa	

People Section

University of Arizona

- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Ron Klawitter**, MS, Water Rights & Contacts Analyst Salt River Project; **Avralt–Od Purevjav**, MS, PhD program in Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University; **Jingyu Liu**, MS, PhD program in Statistics, The University of Arizona

University of California, Berkeley

- Award: **Gordon Rausser**, EAAE, Quality of Policy Contribution Award

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

- Resignations: **Jenni James**; **Carol Sexton**
- New Appointment: **Ricky Volpe**, Assistant Professor

Colorado State University

- Awards: **John Loomis**, AAEA, 2014; **Allison Bauman**, WAEA, Placed 3rd; **Michelle Kibler**, AAEA, 2nd place in Graduate Student Extension Competition **Misti Sharp**, **Jada Thompson**, **Anders Van Sandt**, AAEA, Case Study Team, 3rd place; **Kellie Enns**, Association of Public and Land–Grant Universities, USDA Food & Agriculture Sciences Excellence in Teaching Award; **Leslie Richardson**, **John Loomis**, & **Patricia Champ**, Journal of Forest Economics, Sören Wibe Prize
- Visitors: **Becca Jablonski**, PhD, Cornell University, Postdoctoral Fellow, 1–2 years; **Charles Abdalla**, Professor; Department of Agriculture & Environmental Economics, The Pennsylvania State; Visiting Professor, Sept 2014–Feb 2015

Cornell University

- New Appointments: **John Hoddinott**, H. E. Babcock Professor of Food, Nutrition, and Public Policy; **Byoung–Hyoung Hwang**, Assistant Professor of Finance; **Jennifer Ifft**, Assistant Professor and Mueller Family Sesquicentennial Faculty Fellow in Agribusiness and Farm Management; **Ariel Ortiz–Bobe**, Assistant Professor and CoBank/Farm Credit East Sesquicentennial Faculty Fellow in Production Economics and Sustainability; **Michael Roach**, **J. Thomas** and **Nancy W. Clark** Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship; **Donna Haeger**, Lecturer of Spreadsheet Modeling; **Laurel Parrilli**, Lecturer of Accounting
- Appointment Change: **Miguel Gomez**, Associate Professor with tenure.
- Awards: **Vicki Bogan**, State University of New York, Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching; **Shanjun Li**, International Industrial Organization Conference, Utility Research Center Prize; **Teevrat Garg** and **Linden McBride**, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistants
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Jing He**, MS, Consumer Analytics Management Associate, Citibank; **Muhammad Jawad Khan**, MS, Assistant Professor, Balochistan University of IT; **Amy Uber**, MS, Senior Agricultural Economist, CA Dept. of Food & Agriculture; **Fengping Zheng**, MS, Analyst, China Life Asset Management Company; **Elizabeth Bageant**, MS, Research Support Specialist, Dyson School, Cornell University; **Yijia Tang**, MS, Research Support Specialist, Dyson School, Cornell University; **Shadi Atallah**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Purdue University; **Catalina Herrera–Almanza**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Northeastern University; **Elaine Hill**, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Rochester; **Nathaniel Jensen**, PhD, Post–Doc, Dyson School, Cornell University; **Romi Kher**, PhD, Post–Doc, Dyson School, Cornell University; **Joel Landry**,

PhD, Assistant Professor, The Pennsylvania State University; **Benjamin Leard**, PhD, Fellow, Resources for the Future; **Adrian Lopes**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Bates College; **Yu Qin**, PhD, Assistant Professor, National University of Singapore; **Kira Villa**, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of New Mexico

- Return from Leave: **Loren Tauer**
- Leave: **Todd Schmit**, University of Minnesota and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, August 24–December 31, 2014
- Retirement: **Timothy Mount**, 44 years of service
- Visitors: **Yasutomo Kojima**, Tokyo University of Agriculture; **Yaqin Liu**, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics; **Xiangyu Sun**, Nanjing University of Informational Science and Technology; **Dongwei Wen**, Nankai University; **Yuehua Zhang**, Zhejiang University

Economic Research Service

- New Appointments: **Nestor Rodriguez**, Food Markets Branch as a Research Agricultural Economist; **Michelle Saksena**, Food Markets Branch as a Research Agricultural Economist; **David Levin**, Food Markets Branch as a Research Agricultural Economist; **John Bovay**, PhD, Agricultural Economist

University of Hawaii at Manoa

- Award: **Chennat Gopalakrishnan**, WAEA, Distinguished Scholar

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- New Appointments: **Ben Crost**, Assistant Professor; **Erica Myers**, Assistant Professor
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Divina Gracia Rodriguez**, PhD, Production Economist, Norwegian Agricultural Economics Research Institute; **Maria Christina Jolejole-Foreman**, Post-doctoral position at Tufts University; **Taro Mieno**, Post-doctoral Fellow, Institute on the Environment, University of Minnesota

International Food Policy Research Institute

- New Appointment: **Lawrence Haddad**, Senior Research Fellow, **Manfred Zeller**, Head Policy Research for HarvestPlus; **Frank Place**, Senior Research Fellow; **George Mavrotas**, Senior Research Fellow II; **Victor Taleon**, Associate Research Fellow; **Kerri W. Platais**, Program Head for Scientific & Technical Partnership in Africa; **Maria Recalde**, Associate Research Fellow; **Signe Nelgen**, Associate Research Fellow; **Ina Schonberg**, Deputy Director of Programs for HarvestPlus; **Adam Komarek**, Research Fellow
- Award: **Kristin Davis**, AIAEE, Outstanding Achievement Award; **Margaret McMillan and William Masters**, AAEA, Publication of Enduring Quality Award
- Honorary Positions: **Kristin Davis**, President AIAEE, 2014–2015; **Ephraim Nkonya**, IPBES Panel of Experts; **Jose Falck-Zepeda**, US National Academy of Sciences, Committee Member "Genetically Engineered Crops: Past Experience and Future Prospects"
- Visitors: **Jacob Bart Thompson** August 5–8, 2014

Louisiana State University

- Resignation: **Joshua D. Detre**
- Appointment Change: **John Westra**, Professor; **Krishna P. Paudel**, Professor; **Ross J. Pruitt**, Associate Professor with tenure

- Award: **Gail L. Cramer**, AAEA Trust, The Gail L. Cramer Appreciation Club chartered
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Lorna Amrinto**, PhD, USAA, Dallas; **Berdikul Qushim**, PhD, Post Doc Louisiana State University

University of Maryland

- New Appointment: **Mary Zaki**, Assistant Professor
- Award: **Richard E. Just**, AAEA, Distinguished Teaching Award for Graduate Teaching with Ten or More Years' Experience
- Resignations: **Vivian Hoffmann**, **Karthik Kalyanaraman** and **Charles Towe**
- Visitors: **Marie Hyland**, Research Analyst, Economic and Social Research Institute in Dublin, Visiting Scholar, September 2014 – February 2015; **Hojeong Park**, Professor, Korea University, Visiting Scholar, July 2014 – June 2015

Michigan State University

- New Appointment: **Joseph A. Herriges**, Professor; **Corey C. Risch**, Assistant Professor
- Appointment Change: **Satish Joshi**, Professor; **Duncan Boughton**, Professor; **Mywish Maredia**, Professor; **Cynthia Donovan**, Associate Professor; **Steven Hanson**, Associate Provost and Dean of International Studies & Programs; **Steven Lovejoy**, Professor
- Award: **Joseph Herriges**, AERE, [Fellow of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists](#); **Thomas Reardon**, AAEA, [Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association](#); **Richard Horan**, Michigan State University, W.J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Adam Lovgren**, PhD, Strategy Consultant, Roll Global LLC; **Xuan Wei**, PhD, Post-doctoral Research Associate, Lincoln University; **Mariam (Sako) Thiam**, MS, Consultant in Financial Analysis, J.P. Morgan Chase; **Nathalie Me-Nsope**, PhD, Specialist, Michigan State University; **Helder Zavale**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Eduardo Mondlane University; **Alexandra Peralta**, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Adelaide (Australia)
- Return from Leave: **Mark Skidmore**
- Leave: **David Weatherspoon**, USDA–Economic Research Service, 4–6 months
- Visitors: **Dusan Paredes–Araya**, Associate Professor, Universidad Catolica del Norte, Research Scholar, 2014–16

University of Missouri

- Appointment Change: **Christian R. Boessen**, Associate Teaching Professor; **Fabio Chaddad**, Awarded Tenure and Promoted to Associate Professor; **Peter Klein**, Professor
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduate: **DJ Donahue**, PhD, Agricultural Economist, USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy Program Area; **See Yang**, MS, Juris Doctorate candidate, University of Arkansas School of Law

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Position Taken by Recent Graduates: **Ann Hunter–Pirtle**, MS, Speechwriter for EPA Administrator and Deputy Administrator
- Visitors: **Rodrigo Silveira**, Assistant Professor in Economics, State University of Campinas (Unicamp), Brazil, Research Scholar, 1 year

Ohio State University

- Position Taken By Recent Graduate: **Lea Fortmann**, Assistant Professor, University of Puget Sound; **Jennifer Gnagey**, Visiting Assistant Professor, Weber State University; **Matt Gnagey**, Assistant Professor, Weber State University; **Yue Hua**, Assistant Professor, Hunan University; **Michele Saksena**, Economist, USDA–Economic Research Service; **Xiaohui Tian**, Assistant Professor, Renmin University
- Resignation: **Dr. Steven Vickner**.
- Visitors: **Dr. Lin Bao**, Visiting Associate Professor, Jiangsu Normal University, P.R. China September 2014 – September 2015; **Leonardo Chaves Borges Cardoso**, Visiting Scholar, PhD Candidate Universidade Federal De Parana, Brazil. Duration: October 2014 – October 2015; **Dr. Hye–Jung Kang**, Visiting Associate Professor, Chonnam National University, Korea. Duration: September 2014 – September 2015; **Dr. Yingmei Tang**, Visiting Associate Professor, Nanjing Agricultural University, P.R. China. Duration: August 2014 –August 2015.
- Authors: **Marin Bozic**, **John Newton**, **Cameron S. Thraen** and **Brian W. Gould**. Published in the American Journal of Agricultural Economics, “[Tails Curtailed: Accounting for Nonlinear Dependence in Pricing Margin Insurance for Dairy Farmers](#)”.
S. R. Thompson, Y. Bae, M. Kniepert. Published in Empirical Economics, August 2010, Volume 39, Issue 1, pp 291–302, “[Agricultural policy regime change assessment: Austrian accession to the European Union](#)”.

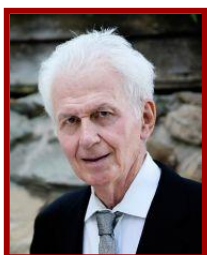
Purdue University

- New Appointments: **Dr. Adriela Fernandez**, Limited Term Lecturer; **Dr. Michael Wetzstein**, faculty position; **Dominique van der Mensbrugge**, GTAP
- Appointment Change: **Marshall Martin**, Founding Director of the Purdue University Soybean Center; **Frank Dooley**, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs
- Award: **Dr. Juan Sesmero**, C–FARE, Early career professional leadership award
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Eric O’Rear**, PhD, Research Economist in Applied Economics, National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Return from Leave: **Patrick Hatzenbuehler**

Obituary

Carl K. Eicher

[Carl K. Eicher](#), professor of agricultural economics at Michigan State University (MSU) from 1961 to 1999, passed away on July 5, 2014. Dr. Eicher’s lifelong passion was enabling agricultural



development and ending hunger in Africa. At Michigan State University from 1961 to 1999, he was a visionary leader and prominent voice for global food security. He worked in several African universities and organizations to build the capacity to make the continent self-sufficient in food production. Over his career, he mentored hundreds of students committed to Africa, both from the continent and from elsewhere.

“The fruits of his contributions of building a generation of African researchers,

educators and policy makers will be harvested for decades to come,” said Peter Matlon, former Managing Director–Africa, Rockefeller Foundation.

Eicher was born April 3, 1930, and grew up on a farm near Newberry in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agricultural economics at MSU, then a doctorate in economics at Harvard University. He returned to MSU as a faculty member in 1961. Eicher always was a strong advocate of the land grant mission in U.S. higher education.

Eicher served as a visiting professor at the University of Nigeria from 1963–66, at Stanford University in 1968 and at the University of Zimbabwe from 1983–87, where he was co–director with Mandi Rukuni of the University of Zimbabwe/MSU Food Security program. He also worked there with SADCC, an organization created to reduce the economic dependence of neighboring countries on South Africa during the era of apartheid.

Eicher wrote eight books on agricultural development, two of which became standard texts. Among [his publications](#), his article in *Foreign Affairs*, “Facing Up to Africa’s Food Crisis” (1982) drew the attention of global policy makers to hunger in Africa.

After retirement, his dedication to African development persisted through his work with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank, the Kellogg Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and African organizations such the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).



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