



# AAEA Grad Student Section Update

*The Official Newsletter of the Graduate Student Section*

Volume 1, Issue 2

Covering News for October, November, and December, 2005

## What's Inside?

Message from the Chair

Want to Share in the Experience?

What Happened in Providence?

The AAEA-GSS Goes Global!

Upcoming Events

Why Should I Join AAEA-GSS?

Meet the AAEA-GSS Executive Committee's Members

*Chief Editor:* N. Kalogeras  
(Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign & Wageningen University, NL, EU)

*Co-editors:* Leigh Ann Love  
(Univ. of Florida) & Whitney Oliver Peake (Purdue Univ.)

## Message from AAEA-GSS Chair

Greetings AgEcon Graduate Students, Professors, and Professionals,

Welcome to the second edition of the "AAEA Graduate Student Section Update" This newsletter contains information about the GSS activities at the AAEA meeting in Providence, updates from the GSS executive board, an outlook of the planned GSS activities at the 2006 Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA, and much more!

First, we would like to thank everyone who made the GSS activities at the 2005 AAEA meeting in Providence, RI a real success. We had a great turnout at the GSS reception and graduate students had the chance to make contacts from all over the world. Congratulations to the winners of our fabulous prizes! We hope to see many of you again at our reception in Long Beach, CA!

In addition to the GSS reception and case study competition, the GSS organized three track sessions. For the first time we offered a track session on writing a CV, resume, and cover letter. All sessions were very well attended and we received great feedback from you. Based on the positive response, we decided to offer three track sessions again at the 2006 AAEA meeting in Long Beach. Get ready to attend the track sessions that will include outstanding speakers from academia, government, and industry who will discuss relevant topics regarding job search, interviewing, and successful journal article publications.

Enjoy the GSS newsletter and I hope to see you at the 2006 AAEA meeting in Long Beach, CA!

*Christiane Schroeter*

## Want to Share in the Experience?

The AAEA-GSS executive committee is planning several exciting new activities! The GSS is working in collaboration with other AAEA sections to offer you an even wider variety of activities and sessions! Do you want to share in the experience? Please check out our new website (<http://www.geocities.com/aaeagss/contactus.htm>) for detailed information about GSS activities, job information, useful links, contact information, and much more. We would like to encourage you to take the quick survey on our website <http://www.geocities.com/aaeagss/survey.htm> by January 31, 2006 for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon Gift Certificate! We look forward to hearing from you!

## What Happened in Providence?

The GSS activities in Providence started with an adventurous and exciting reception and business meeting. The theme for the meeting was "Treasure Island." In addition to everyone discovering their "pirate's name," attendees could also play for poker chips in the casino (with cash prizes to the top winners), and enjoy the provided refreshments. Feel free to check out photos from the business meeting and reception at the GSS website at:

<http://www.geocities.com/aaeagss/homepage.htm>. Below the most important moments and information of the track sessions that followed the reception and business meeting are presented.

---

### Case Study Competition

For the last eight years the AAEA Graduate Student Case Study Competition has provided graduate students with an opportunity to test their communication skills as well as their ability to apply knowledge of agricultural economics and agribusiness issues to a real-world agribusiness-related situation. The case this year highlighted the dilemma faced by eMerge Interactive regarding its two separate divisions. The three teams that advanced to the finals were: University of Missouri, Oklahoma State University, and Purdue University. During the finals competition the three teams gave their presentations to a panel of judges, which included the CEO of eMerge Interactive, Dave Warren. The winners were announced later that night at the Industry Banquet, with the University of Missouri team members H. Dorr and M. Mullins receiving first place, Purdue University team members J. AcMoody, M. Gunderson, and W. Peake receiving second place, and Oklahoma State University team members S. Howry, B. Prado, and R. Pruitt receiving third place in the competition. The GSS and winning teams would like to thank the Agribusiness and Economics Management (AEM) section for providing the tickets to the Foundation Banquet for the Case Study Competition finalists. The GSS's deepest gratitude goes to Dr. M. Sykuta and Dr. A. Spaulding for organizing and coordinating the competition and to all judges for their time and effort. More information about the competition is provided through the GSS website: <http://www.geocities.com/aaeagss/casestudy.htm>.

---

### Writing and Submitting a Journal Article

The GSS enjoyed a great turnout with outstanding speakers at the GSS session "Guidelines on Writing and Submitting Journal Articles." The purpose of this organized symposium was to provide tips on how to write and submit journal articles and provide strategies to increase the probability of article acceptance by a journal. The session included presentations by Drs. Bob Myers, Michigan State University, Rachel Goodhue, University of California, Davis, and Jayson Lusk, Oklahoma State University. The GSS thanks all the speakers for sharing their experiences! We are looking forward to hearing more outstanding presentations from our speakers at the GSS sessions of the 2006 annual meeting.

---

### Guidelines for Writing a CV & Resume

The GSS dedicated an entirely new track session to "Guidelines for Writing a CV & Resume" at the Providence meetings. Over 50 graduate students attended the new session, truly indicating a direct interest in this area. The session was moderated by Jennifer Keeling-Bond, former GSS Secretary from UC-Davis. The featured speakers within the session included two academia representatives, Dr. C. Alexander of Purdue University and Dr. C. Anderson of the University of Rhode Island, one government representative, R. Shewmaker, and one private sector representative, Dr. M. Wade.

---

### Interviewing and Becoming a Successful Professional

Over 20 conference attendees participated in this session, which included presentations by Dr. D. Bernardo (Washington State University), Dr. M. Bohman (ERS-USDA), and Dr. A. Hallam (Iowa State University). Because of the strong interest and the positive comments of the participants of this session the GSS is planning to enrich this session with a greater variety of topics for the 2006 annual meeting. For the power-point presentations given by the speakers in all the track sessions and for the latest news regarding GSS planning activities for the coming annual meeting, please visit <http://www.geocities.com/aaeagss/activitiesevents.htm#Track%20Sessions>

## The AAEA-GSS Goes Global!

The AAEA-GSS activities have attracted much interest from AgEcon scholars worldwide. Many graduate students from around the world visit the AAEA-GSS website and contact the GSS officers! AgEcon faculty members from around the globe also continue to provide their enthusiasm and support with active participation in AAEA-GSS activities. In response to all the warm greetings, constructive comments, and active participation in AAEA-GSS activities, the members of the executive committee would like to convey their thanks to all the members, readers, and professionals of the AgEcon community worldwide. In an effort to provide recognition and appreciation to all our members and readers, the AAEA Grad Student Section Update now hosts a column that allows it to GO GLOBAL! In the very special first edition of this column the AAEA-GSS welcomes the news of the *Ph.D. Council of the Dept. of Social Sciences, Wageningen, University, The Netherlands, EU*.

---

### Economics and Social Science Research in Food, Agriculture, Environment and Development

On September 22-23, 2005, Wageningen University hosted the second-annual European Ph.D. Workshop for economic and social science research in the areas of food, agriculture, environment, and development. The workshop was combined with the annual Mansholt Graduate School (MGS) Ph.D. day. The MGS administration and its Ph.D. council took a leading role. The European Association of Agricultural Economics (EAAE) was also a major sponsor of the event. During this event Ph.D. students had the opportunity to present their research and receive comments from their colleagues, professors, and other experienced professionals. The call for papers attracted over 110 abstracts from Ph.D. students registered in 16 European countries. Fifty-nine Ph.D. students were selected to give oral presentations of their research in five workshops. The topics varied from consumer behavior and food safety to development aid. On the second day there was a one-hour session in which 20 posters were discussed. An invited group of top professors and researchers from the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the UK, Norway, the US and Canada were present to provide feedback and comments.

Prof. A. Kuyvenhoven, MGS Director, delivered the keynote speech. In addition to the paper sessions and the poster session there were several plenary speakers, including Prof. S. Stefanou (Pennsylvania State University) and Dr. E. Romstad (Norwegian University of Life Sciences, President of the EAAE), among others. The plenary speakers discussed various topics, including guidelines and tips for publishing social research, and strategies for attaining quality standards and relevance in scientific research. The full program can be viewed at :

<http://www.sls.wau.nl/mi/EUworkshop2005>

The next European Ph.D. Workshop will take place in France in 2007. Currently, the MGS Ph.D. Council is organizing the Mansholt Ph.D. day on May 31, 2006. It will be combined with the Ph.D. day of the International Chain and Network Conference. The MGS's Ph.D. Council would like to thank all the participants, from the global AgEcon family, who helped make the workshop a success.

*Margreet van Putten,*

*Chair of MGS's PhD council, WUR, NL, EU*

---

### Upcoming Events

The next AAEA Annual Meeting, "Envisioning the Future" will be held July, 23 - 26, 2006 in Long Beach, California. For more info about 2006 annual meeting's activities visit the following website: <http://www.aea.org/SPPPOSCalls.pdf>

The call of papers of several other interesting events can be viewed at:

<http://www.aea.org/info/upcoming/> and

[http://www.eaae.org/index.php3?page=en/content/seminars/upcoming\\_seminars.htm](http://www.eaae.org/index.php3?page=en/content/seminars/upcoming_seminars.htm)

## Why Should I Join AAEA-GSS?

**How can \$5 give you networking opportunities, access to informative track sessions, the chance to participate in competitions to enhance your CV, as well as a shot at winning a \$25 gift certificate from Amazon? Read below to find out more!**

AAEA-GSS is a worthwhile affiliation for graduate students not only in US but worldwide. It provides a multitude of opportunities through competitions, track sessions at the annual meetings, networking, etc. Becoming a member of the AAEA-GSS is fast, inexpensive, and incredibly easy. There are two ways to join: 1) when you renew your AAEA membership, simply select that you would like to become a member of the Graduate Student Section and pay the \$5 with your regular registration, and 2) if you register for AAEA membership and simply forget to do this or decide after reading this newsletter that you would like to become a member of the GSS, then you can either fill out another membership form online and add the section membership or print it out and fax/send it to the AAEA Staff. The mailing address and fax number are available on the following site: <http://www.aea.org/contact.cfm>. As if all the opportunities GSS provides are not enough to convince you to join, if you register for GSS membership before December 15, you will be placed in a drawing for a \$25 Amazon Gift Card!

For additional information please visit our website at <http://www.geocities.com/aeagss>. It is never too late to join and take advantage of the opportunities the GSS can provide. If you have any questions about the GSS please contact Christiane Schroeter ([cschroe@purdue.edu](mailto:cschroe@purdue.edu)) or Leigh Ann Love ([LLove@ufl.edu](mailto:LLove@ufl.edu)).

---

### Meet the Members of AAEA-GSS Committee

**Christiane Schroeter** is the Chair of GSS 2005-06. She completed a Bachelor's degree in Food Sciences and a Masters in Food Economics at the Justus-Liebig University Giessen, Germany. From August 1999 to December 2000, she studied at Kansas State University and received a Masters in Ag. Economics. Currently, Christiane is a Ph.D. candidate in Agricultural Economics at Purdue University specializing in Agribusiness and Industrial Organization & Markets and anticipates graduating in December 2005. Her dissertation research employs a microeconomic framework to determine the impact of food price and policy changes on obesity in the U.S. Since her first year at Purdue University, Christiane has been actively involved in the graduate student activities with the AAEA: "I became Member-at-Large of the AAEA-GSS in 2002. Thanks to the GSS, I made contacts and formed wonderful friendships with graduate students from all over the world! The GSS provides valuable opportunities to network with students and professors from other U.S. universities, as well as with professionals working in fields related to agricultural economics. Being part of the AAEA network is like being a member of one big family! The AAEA-GSS strives to remain your premier place to network, make employment contacts, and enhance your career!"

**Leigh Ann Love** holds the GSS Chair-Elect for the academic year 2005-06. Leigh earned her masters in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida, August 2005. She is originally from California and earned her B.S. in Agribusiness from Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo. Leigh is currently working on several articles related to her research on the effect of low-carbohydrate diet newspaper coverage upon U.S. orange juice purchases and a farm-raised shrimp marketing project. According to Leigh, "One of the greatest things about the Graduate Student Section is having the opportunity to interact with graduate students through AAEA. Although the executive committee only gets to meet other students face-to-face at the annual AAEA meetings, the section strives to provide year-round communication with section members through the website, newsletter, and articles in 'The Exchange.' We are always looking for new ways to enhance the graduate student experience at AAEA meetings, so if you have any suggestions, please let us know!"