

Minutes of AAEA China Section Business Meeting

Chicago, Illinois, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. July 30, 2017

It was great seeing all in Chicago! I am summarizing the items discussed in our business meeting held on the past Sunday. About 40 people attended the meeting.

1. Update on the leadership

- a. Outgoing chair: Guzhen Zhou, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics
- b. Chair: Yuqing Zheng, University of Kentucky
- c. Chair-elect: Jian Zhang, Central University of Finance and Economics

2. Membership and budget

<u>Year</u>	<u>Members</u>
2017	106
2016	97
2015	89
2014	91
2013	81
2012	77
2011	81
2010	86

We are growing at a healthy rate but compared with other 200 plus-member sections (such as the Food Safety and Nutrition section), we are still a small group. We have 253 members in our We-chat's China section group—if all can join AAEA China Section we can double our section membership overnight, and will have more financial resources to do activities such as supporting student travel, sponsoring/organizing conferences, organizing more reunions etc. Please continue to encourage colleagues and students to join our section!

In the last year, we received \$860 total income from membership dues, which was all spent on the foods provided at the business meeting and award plaques. Our net asset is around \$4,200.

3. Best paper award

- a. First place: The Formation of Taobao Villages in China, by Jiaqi Qi, and Xiaoyong Zheng, North Carolina State University
- b. Second place: Do Farmers Gain Internet Dividends from E-commerce Adoption? Evidence from China, by Xiaokang Li, Hongdong Guo, Songqing Jin, and Yiwu Zeng, Zhejiang University and Michigan State University (Jin)

4. A special issue of Agribusiness: An International Journal

We are collaborating with Agribusiness: An International Journal (SSCI journal published by Wiley, impact factor 0.74 [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1520-6297](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1520-6297)) on a special issue devoted to the "21st Century Agribusiness in China". The idea is that some of our

section's accepted papers for the 2018 AAEA meeting will form the special issue. We brainstormed for potential themes for this special issue during the business meeting. The following topics were suggested: e-commerce, merger and acquisition, conservation and environment, and labeling (GMO etc.) and trade relationship. If you have further suggestions on the potential theme for the special issue, please let me know. The call for papers should come out in later 2018.

5. Communicating out strategy

If you have something worthy of a story, such as a research paper that might be interesting to the general public, please consider sending to Jay Saunders, the AAEA communication manager (Jsaunders@AAEA.org). This will help increase our section members' visibility, obtain industry interest, and help junior scholars to learn how to work with the media.

Finally, I am attaching a few photos from our business meeting and sessions. Our sessions were well attended!

Sincerely,

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Chair, China Section of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA)