Greetings from SS-AAEA Officers and Advisors:

Welcome to another year with the AAEA! We hope you enjoyed San Francisco and thank you for participating in the 2015 annual meeting. As we reach the midpoint of the fall semester, we look forward to seeing all members, new and returning, next summer at the 2016 annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. Summer will be here before you know, and it’s not too early to begin thinking about travel plans to Boston. So get ready, start preparing for the SS-AAEA Academic Bowl, Undergraduate Paper, Creative Club, Earl O. Headly Decision Sciences Spreadsheet, and Outstanding Chapter competitions.

See you on the East Coast!

Academic Bowl Competition:

We are working diligently to improve your academic bowl experience. Going forward, look towards these improvements:

- When a team buzzes in, the moderator will stop reading, and the answer time will start.
- There will be a brief training session for computer operators, moderators, and judges Sunday night before the competition.
- Providing judges a guide to help eliminate confusion when the question has multiple answers or terms.

These are just a few changes that will be made in order to improve how efficiently the competition will run overall.

SS-AAEA, Academic Bowl History:

Prior to 1988, the student paper competition was the only SS-AAEA sponsored competition which began in the 1950s. The first SS-AAEA academic bowl competition began in 1988 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Here is a look into the past of recorded academic bowl statistics since it first began 27, now almost 28, years ago!

![Number of Students from 1988 to 2015](image)
SAEA 2016 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas:

The Student Section for the SAEA will be organizing the Academic Quiz Bowl competition in San Antonio, Texas, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel Feb. 6-9, 2016. For schools that wish to participate, travel grants will be available to students who plan on competing in the Quiz Bowl competition. Registration begins on Dec. 1, 2015.

For more information about the Student Section Quiz Bowl competition contact Sierra Howrey at sierra.howrey@uwrf.edu or visit the SAEA website at www.saea.org.

Meet your Student Officer Team!

President- Luke Benton

Hello readers! My name is Luke Benton and I am a senior at California State University Chico. I am studying Agricultural Business with a minor in Agricultural Science. Like many of you I grew up in an agricultural environment. Living in the heart of the Central Valley in California has given me the unique opportunity to experience a wide variety of crops, land and people. I transferred to Chico State in the spring of 2014 and since then have continued to learn and deepen my passion for the over 200 agricultural commodities that California is known for. I am currently the herdsman at the University Farm’s Swine Unit and have worked there since I transferred. I am also pursuing a PCA (Pest Control Advisor) license that will further enable me in a career with crop and chemical management to better serve growers and producers in a local and perhaps national way. I had the opportunity in the summer of 2015 to experience a very unique industry. I worked in the Napa Valley as a field inspector with several PCA’s, who themselves worked closely with vineyard management companies as well as wine makers. This experience allowed me to see a whole other side to the agriculture of the state and has given me even more motivation to pursue a career in agriculture.

I love the outdoors and I especially enjoy fishing and hunting up and down the state. I also love spending time with family and friends, who are the most important people in the world to me.

I am excited for the future of agriculture in California and the United States as well. We face many challenges in the road ahead, but with the right ideas and enough elbow grease, we can all roll up our sleeves and continue the legacy passed down to us from our forefathers as examples of hard work and perseverance!
Vice President- Macy Herzog

Howdy! My name is Macy Herzog I’m a junior at Texas A&M University. I’m an Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics double major. I grew up in a small town in Texas and was involved in raising livestock for my county fair, as well as being involved in many different organizations throughout high school. Since coming to college, I have been very involved on and off campus. I am currently the Finance chair for Aggie REPS, the Vice President of Business Relations for the National Agri-Marketing Association Texas A&M Chapter, a member of the Texas A&M Agricultural Economics Society, and a member of Delta Gamma Sorority. On top of all that I also have a part time job. In my spare time, I like to hunt deer and attend Aggie Football games at Kyle Field. I look forward to seeing y’all at the conference this coming summer. Thanks and Gig ‘Em!

Secretary- Destinie Marshall

Hello All! My name is Destinie Marshall I am a junior at South Dakota State University majoring in Business Economics with minors in Entrepreneurial Studies and German. While in college I was a co-founder of the Society of Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate and I am currently serving as president. My involvement on campus didn't stop there. I am apart of Alpha Xi Delta, holding a position in marketing. I also work part time at Daktronics working as a business trainee student learning the ins-and-outs of a large corporation. After studying in Germany last summer, I have decided my future will consist of possibly living in Germany either for a career or for graduate school in Business Economics.

Treasurer- Andrew Miles

Hello everyone! My name is Andrew Miles and I am starting my senior year at Oregon State University. After this year I will have a degree in Agriculture Business Management and plan on going on to get my Masters in Agriculture Education. I am the traditional agriculture student, growing up on a farm and developing a passion for agriculture. From my leadership positions in FFA and sports I found I enjoy being a committed member of any organization I am involved in. This is why in college I have become an officer of several groups and most recently the treasurer of the SS-AAEA. Outside of school I own and operate my family alfalfa farm in Eastern Oregon with my brother. In my rare down time, I enjoy hunting, fishing and sports of any kind. After I graduate with my Masters I plan on becoming a high school agriculture teacher so I can spread my passion of agriculture to the future generations.
Hello everyone! My name is Hollee Koester and I am a junior at Oklahoma State University, working towards my Bachelor's Degree, double majoring in Agribusiness & Agricultural Communications with a focus on Public Relations. I am from Wellston, Okla., a rural town centered around agriculture. My passion for agriculture ignited after becoming a member of FFA and was involved in many activities associated with it. Growing up, I was also involved in many rodeo associations and competed in the girls breakaway and barrel racing events. I am an active member of the Oklahoma State University Agricultural Economics Department student organization, Aggie-X Club, and participate on the academic bowl team. I have a passion for building relationships and helping to create good reputations. In the future I see myself working for an agricultural PR firm that hopefully requires doing lots of traveling! I want to wish everyone a great school year and we'll see you in Boston!

AAEA 2016 annual meeting in Boston, MA.
July 31- August 2

For more information on how to enter for the Student Paper, Outstanding Chapter, Earl O. Heady Decision Sciences Spreadsheet and Creative Club competitions go online to:
www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea