

President's Column

January 2016



The AAEA Executive Board engaged in a productive meeting at the recent Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco. The Board made several important decisions that will impact the future of the association, including

assessing the implementation of our strategic vision and how we can improve. Frank Wolak of Stanford University gave the T.W. Schultz Lecture on solving the west's water problem. AAEA invited paper sessions were excellent.

As we embark on a new year, I want to review a few highlights for AAEA in 2015. First, our membership is growing. At the end of 2015, we had 2,686 members, which is an increase of more than 200 members from the same time last year.

I am also excited that the number and diversity of Sections is growing, which helps our members engage with colleagues who share their specific interests. For example, the new [Brewing and Enology Economic Research \(BEER\) Section](#) was established in 2015 and will host a pre-conference workshop in the form of a beer industry tour at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. This private tour will examine the craft brewing industry in Boston with discussions on the economics of beer and brewing at each stop along the way.

Another highlight for the AAEA is that the back issues of *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (AJAE) and *Review of Agricultural Economics* (RAE) are now archived on [Research Papers in Economics \(RePEc\)](#). This is important because it impacts the rankings of many academic departments and provides increased recognition to some of our top researchers.

We have many accomplishments and challenges to reflect on in the implementation of our strategic vision, which has been a major focus for the Executive Board in 2015 and for the future. As part of our "communicating out" strategy, we are striving to raise the profile of AAEA's publications: *AJAE*, *AEPP*, and *Choices Magazine*. We have asked the editors to identify articles that may be of interest to a broader audience outside of the profession. Our AAEA Communications Manager, Jay Saunders, will work with willing authors to promote their articles via traditional and new media distribution channels prior to journal print publication. The potential audiences include bloggers, social media, mass media, peer organizations, trade associations, commodity groups, consumer groups, and NGOs. Jay will also provide C-FARE with summaries and links to AAEA articles for inclusion in their bimonthly newsletter about policy-relevant research for congressional staff and federal agencies.

At the ASSA meeting AAEA's contract with C-FARE was approved for 2016. The Board approved additional funds as part of a coalition to complete a

“Priorities and Solutions” project. This project will provide the profession with the opportunity to shape its own future. It identifies and communicates research opportunities to our stakeholders so that they get excited about what we *are* doing and what we *can* do. AAEA aims to spur greater understanding of the important applied economics research in intramural (USDA [ERS](#)) and extramural (USDA [NIFA](#) and NSF’s [SBE/INFEWS](#)) programs. However, to be successful,

the project requires input from you, AAEA members. We will be reaching out to you for your input; I encourage you to respond when asked or surveyed.

I wish all of our valued AAEA members a productive and rewarding new year.

Jill McCluskey
AAEA President

AAEA News



AAEA ANNUAL MEETING
BOSTON
MASSACHUSETTS ★★★★★★
2016 July 31 - August 2

Renew Your AAEA Membership for 2016

You can now renew your AAEA membership for 2016 on the [AAEA website](#). Simply log in to the “My Account” section to renew. Completing your renewal online saves you time by filling out most of the information for you automatically.

The benefits of your AAEA membership only last through the spring of 2016, so be sure to renew soon to ensure you keep receiving services from AAEA throughout the upcoming year.





As you renew your AAEA membership this year, please consider joining the new [Africa Section](#). The objective of the Africa Section is to bring together AAEA members with an interest in teaching, research, outreach, and engagement activities related to agricultural and applied economics and policy issues in Africa and its linkages to the U.S. and the world. The Section serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and to identify opportunities for collaboration among AAEA members and other professionals in academia, industry, and government. We hope the Africa Section will be of special interest to African members of AAEA.

The Africa Section is led by Chair Vincent Amanor-Boadu (Kansas State University), Chair Elect Awudu Abdulai (University of Kiel), and Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Mason (Michigan State University).

During the upcoming year, the Africa Section will be building its membership, hosting track

sessions at the Annual Meeting in Boston, and co-sponsoring one or more travel awards with the International Section to the conference of the African Association of Agricultural Economists in Addis Ababa in September. The Section also looks forward to hearing and acting upon your ideas for other activities and initiatives.

You may join the Africa Section when renewing your membership or, if you've already renewed for this year, you may add on Africa Section membership after logging into your AAEA account. Membership fees are \$10 for regular members, \$10 for students, and free for Lower Income-Lower Middle Income (LI-LMI) members.

Best wishes for 2016, and we look forward to seeing you in Boston, Vincent, Awudu, and Nicky

Donate to the Jon Brandt Special Purpose Fund

The Special Purpose Fund within the AAEA Trust in honor of Dr. Jon Brandt is accepting donations. The Special Purpose Fund supports the annual Jon Brandt Public Policy Forum, which is organized by C-FARE. The forum will share economic research with private and public sector decision makers on issues important to agriculture, food, rural, environmental, and related societal issues.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, contributions made before **January 30**, will be eligible for a direct match (up to \$1500). For more information about the Jon Brandt Special Purpose Fund and to donate, visit the [AAEA Trust website](#).



2016 Teaching, Learning, and Communication Section: Graduate Student Teaching Award

The TLC Section is an active group of AAEA members interested in the theory, scholarship, and practice of learning, teaching, and communication. Given that a large majority of AAEA members have responsibilities in these three areas, the TLC's activities are developed to enhance members' skills in the on-campus classroom, off-campus workshop, and in a presentation to a community group.

As graduate students are our teachers of tomorrow, the TLC has chosen to sponsor this award to recognize and encourage graduate students who excel in teaching agricultural or applied economics courses.

Any member of the AAEA may submit nominations and selection is made based on nominating materials. Re-nominations are encouraged, providing materials are updated and resubmitted. The Graduate Student Teaching Award is a criterion-based award and is reviewed by a committee of TLC members.

The successful nominee will be required to attend the 2016 AAEA Annual Meetings in Boston. In addition, the winner of the award will participate as a presenter (10–15 minute presentation) in the TLC's track session on teaching tips. This session offers the opportunity for Teaching Award recipients to share teaching tips and have a dialogue with AAEA members. The goal of the session is to share ideas on what successful

teachers are doing in and out of the classroom to facilitate learning.

Eligibility

The nominee must have been involved in course instruction (including one or more of laboratory, discussion sections, help section, and online courses) for a minimum of one year (2 semesters or 3 quarters or the equivalent). Nominee must have been a graduate student in good standing within the year before the nomination, i.e. cannot have graduated prior to August 2015.

Applicants must hold a current Graduate Student Membership in AAEA.

Selection Criteria

The following three major areas are considered in evaluating nominations:

1. Quality of teaching;
2. Personal commitment to teaching and self-development as a teacher; and
3. Involvement in undergraduate extracurricular activities.

Nomination Packet

Nominating materials should demonstrate that the nominee has outstanding ability and performance as a teacher of agricultural or applied economics as defined by the AAEA Vision Statement. The nomination packet shall include the following:

1. Award cover page, including membership status to address eligibility. The cover page should include the following information;
 - a. Name, title, professional address, telephone number, email address of the nominator;
 - b. Name, title, professional address, telephone number, email address of the nominee; and
 - c. "TLC Graduate Student Teaching Award Nomination" should be included on the cover page.
2. An essay by the nominee on his/her teaching philosophy, not to exceed five typewritten (double-spaced) pages;
3. A complete description of nominee's specific teaching involvement;
4. A self-evaluation of nominee's teaching activities;
5. A summary of student evaluations of teaching, and no more than two letters of support from current or former students;
6. Two letters of support from faculty, administrators, or others directly involved in the nominee's teaching activities;
7. A statement about nominee's involvement in activities related to teaching (clubs, review sessions, committees, etc.);
8. The nominee's resume/vita; and
9. Supporting materials may be submitted but are limited to three additional pages.

*All materials are to be submitted as a single electronic PDF file to the Teaching, Learning, and Communication Section Chair.

Please submit a complete electronic application packet by **March 1, 2016** to:

Sierra Howry

TLC Chair, 2015-16

Sierra.howry@uwrf.edu

715.425.4275

People Section

University of Arkansas

- New Appointments: **Hannah Shear**, Instructor; **Di Fang**, Assistant Professor

University of Delaware

- Honorary Position: **George Parsons**, Board Member, Society of Benefit-Cost Analysis

Economic Research Service, USDA

- New Appointments: **Alana Rhone**, Agriculture Economist; **Young Jo**, Agriculture Economist

Mississippi State University

- New Appointment: **Steve Turner**, Director of the Southern Rural Development Center
- Resignation: **Steve Turner**



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY®

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- Visitor: **Paulo de Tarso de L. Pires**, Professor, Federal University of Parana, Fulbright Visiting Scholar, January 2016–May 2016

New Mexico State University

- New Appointment: **John Townsend**, College Professor
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Marissa Bartmann**, Master of Agriculture with specialization in Agribusiness; **Erly Kueain**, Master of Science in Agricultural Economics

Washington State University

WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY

- Appointment Change: **Ron Mittelhammer**, Interim Provost
- Award: **Tom Marsh**, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Fellow
- Position Taken by Recent Graduate: **Pratikshya Sapkota Bastola**, PhD, Model Validation Senior, Freddie Mac

West Virginia University

- New Appointments: **Levan Elbakidze**, Assistant Professor; **Heather Stephens**, Assistant Professor
- Awards: **Xiaoli Etienne**, Oklahoma State University, Big 12 Faculty Fellowship program; **Michael Strager**, WVU Foundation, Outstanding Teacher award; **Gerard D'Souza**, *Agricultural & Resource Economics Review*, Fellow
- Positions Taken by Recent Graduates: **Chris Shultz**, PhD, Natural Resource Economics: Quantitative Analyst /Assistant Vice-President, Model Validation Group, State Street Corporation; **Inocencio Rodriguez**, PhD, Natural Resource Economics: Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, Arecibo.
- Honorary Positions: **Donald Lacombe**, Co-Editor of Papers in Regional Science, Regional Science Association International (RSAI); **Heather Stephens**, North American Editor, Regional Studies, Regional Science, 2015–2018.

Obituary

Corinne Eve Nicole Alexander

(1971–2016)



Corinne Eve Nicole Alexander, 44, of Lafayette, IN, passed away

suddenly and unexpectedly on Friday, January 8th, 2016. Corinne was born in Paris, France on December 2nd, 1971 to Peter and the late Margaret

Alexander. Corinne graduated from Philips Exeter Academy, and went on to Oberlin College graduating with a triple major in Biology, Economics, and

Environmental Studies. She received her PhD from University of California, Davis in Agricultural Economics. Corinne worked as a Professor of Agricultural Economics and Extension Economist at [Purdue University](#). Corinne loved spending time with friends and family. She was passionate about gardening and picking vegetables from her own garden to cook and share meals with her friends. She was always trying new recipes and enjoyed a wide variety of food. Corinne was an avid cyclist and member of the Wabash River Cycling Club. Corinne loved to read, often reading a book a day, and enjoyed participating in the local book club. Corinne was very passionate about her career and poured that passion into

research, outreach, and teaching. She was a committed and loving mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students. She was passionate about working with farmers, and improving food security globally through her projects in Africa. She was particularly passionate about the PICS project in Africa which helps farmers store grains for longer durations and sell their goods to the market at the optimal time.

Corinne traveled the world with her family growing up, and lived in France, Indonesia, Japan, and England. She loved to travel and continued doing so in her adult years for work and pleasure. She touched many lives and will be greatly missed.

Corinne is survived by her father, Peter Alexander, her brother, Marc Alexander, his wife, Tara Alexander, and her niece, Avery Alexander. She is predeceased by her mother, Margaret Alexander.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Planned Parenthood <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/> and Lung Cancer Research Foundation <https://www.lungcancerresearchfoundation.org/> The family will be planning a memorial service at their farm in Bucks County, PA, later this year.

You may sign the guest book or leave memories at www.sollerbaker.com

Other News

ECON PhD with Special Rack in Remote Sensing at Virginia Tech

Spatially explicit analysis has become increasingly important in applied economic research, especially in light of climate change. Prominent examples include the economic implications of forest mortality and changes in forest composition over time, agricultural productivity under different climatic stressors and human interventions, and the effect of spatially differentiated environmental changes on housing markets.

Virginia Tech (VT) offers a unique opportunity to combine a **PhD program in Economics** (jointly

administered through the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Department of Economics) with an **Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Remote Sensing (RS-IGEP)**.

PhD Econ/RS-IGEP students take an additional 12 course credits based on four courses related to Remote Sensing, and participate in a weekly seminar, in addition to their standard curriculum leading to the PhD in economics. By completing

these requirements, PhD Econ/RS-IGEP students will earn a certificate in Remote Sensing.

More importantly, RS-IGEP students can tap into VT's premier research group in this area for research and dissertation advising. There are also some funding opportunities for RS-IGEP graduate students, beyond those that might be available from their home department.

In a nutshell, the PhD Econ/RS-IGEP combination is ideal for prospective PhD students in applied economics that have an interest in spatially explicit research, or envision remote sensing to

become an important tool in their dissertation work, or – looking further – their targeted career.

More details on this exciting opportunity are given at the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics web site at <http://www.aaec.vt.edu/graduate/academic-information/remot-sending-track.pdf> , as well as the RS-IGEP home page at <http://rsigep.frec.vt.edu/>.

We hope you "*sense*" the potential of this new program at VT to provide you with a unique graduate experience as well as extra tools for the job market, and join us for the fall 2016 semester!

Scanner Data Workshop Announcement

The Economic Research Service (ERS) is sponsoring a workshop, April 18–19, 2016 for researchers who are currently using IRI scanner data or who are interested in learning more about the data for food policy studies. The aims of the workshop are to (1) disseminate findings from studies that are examining the statistical properties of the data, (2) present results of recent food policy-relevant research conducted using the data, (3) share insights regarding best approaches to working with the data, and (4) provide information to potential new users about how to access the data. The workshop will have separate sessions on Consumer Network (household-based scanner) data, InfoScan (store-based scanner) data, nutrition and product data, efforts to integrate IRI data with other datasets such as FoodAPS, and requirements for accessing the data through ERS for food policy research. The workshop is being organized by RTI International and held at its location in Washington, DC. There is no registration fee for attending the conference but space is limited. Attendees must register at this site: <http://www.eventsbot.com/events/eb017232857>. This event is endorsed by the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA).

Call for WAEA and CAES Selected Papers

The WAEA and CAES are excited to invite you to be a part of the program for the 2016 Joint Annual Meetings of the Western Agricultural Economics Association and the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society this June 21–23rd in Victoria, British Columbia.

The website for selected paper submission is now live at:

<https://editorialexpress.com/caeswaea2016/>

Please be careful to select whether you are a WAEA or CAES member using the dropdown box when you begin the submission of your paper (after the



initial screens asking for your personal information).

There is one change in the information that details how to prepare your proposal in the Winter Newsletter---the deadline is now **February 17, 2016**.

More information is available at:

<http://www.waeaonline.org/UserFiles/file/WAEAWinter2015Newsletter.pdf>

Government Relations

- **Extramural economic research fares well, while intramural economic research is flat-lined, and agricultural statistics takes a cut in FY 2016 Appropriations in Omnibus bill** See the graph [here](#). C-FARE and the AAFA Government Relations Committee are working together to increase membership of a key coalition of supporters of agricultural statistics and analysis, also known as [FASA](#). Building the coalition of supporters for extramural, intramural, agricultural statistics and extension will be critical in 2016 for Fiscal Year (FY) 17 funding. Please contact Caron Gala of C-FARE if you know of industry members or associations who would be interested in joining the group.
- **The National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research Board met on January 8**
National C-FAR is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consensus-based and customer-led coalition that brings food, agriculture, nutrition, conservation and natural resource stakeholders together with the food and agriculture research community. It serves as a forum and a unified voice in support of sustaining and increasing public investment at the national level in food and agricultural research, extension and education. Caron Gala, Executive Director of C-FARE, is the Research and Outreach Committee Chair. She aims to help increase awareness of agricultural research, education and extension broadly, and to highlight the importance of agricultural economics in those programs. Experts from USDA gave updates on USDA, FFAR, NIFA, and other programs. See the link [here](#).
- **The American Farm Bureau Federation held its annual convention in Orlando, FL, January 8–13**

The members voted to “move agricultural research to the forefront of American science.” Participants also stated their support for increased investment in research, both in amount and style of funding; for example, via grants, government–assisted financing, public–private partnerships, etc.

- **Food and Agriculture for the 21st Century – OSTP blog entry on January 13**

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy is [calling for a new commitment to research and education](#) in food and agriculture from all sectors.

- **Child nutrition programs passed the Senate Agriculture Committee on January 20**

The U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry passed “[Improving Child Nutrition Integrity and Access Act of 2016](#)” on January 20. See the text [here](#).

- **Farm income a top issue in DC and for the nation**

Last year and into this year, major farm news outlets are closely following the drop in farm income estimated by USDA data and corroborated by the narratives coming out of the heartland. The following outlets covered the topic: [Ag Week](#), [Bloomberg](#), [The Dallas Morning Times](#), and [DTN The Progressive Farmer](#). AAEA and C–FARE will join to provide congressional staff with a briefing on the topic in early February.

- **Resolution passed to disapprove the waters of the US definition**

The Obama Administration's new definition of waters of the United States was included in the omnibus. A congressional resolution to roll back the regulation was [passed last week](#). The Administration has promised to [veto](#) the measure.

- **Avian influenza surfaces in Indiana**

On January 17, the USDA confirmed the pathogenicity of eight of nine H7N8 avian influenza detections in Indiana commercial turkey operations. Last year, an outbreak of a different strain—H5N2—wiped out close to 50 million birds, sending egg prices soaring.

- **White House to unveil Fiscal 2017 Budget on February 9**

The White House will release the president’s fiscal 2017 budget on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board (NAREEEAB) met from December 16–18, 2015. See full agenda and all ppts [here](#).

At the meetings it was recommended by the Adequacy and Relevancy Committee that they could do their job most effectively if the [USDA Research, Education, and Economics Mission Area](#) leadership presented information on specific parts of its portfolio on a rotating schedule over the coming years. During the December meeting, the focus was on Food Safety and Nutrition programs. Efforts from AAEA membership were well represented by the USDA [Economic Research Service](#), but the report by the [National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#) noted less inclusion of social sciences. [USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service](#) also highlighted new food safety survey efforts guided at least partially by

AAEA members. The AAEA Government Relations Committee will receive a final report on the Relevancy and Adequacy of Food Safety and Nutrition programs this spring. The focus topics for 2016–17 will be Climate and Natural Resource Issues.

The Secretary of Agriculture will soon announce a new Science Advisory Council, as the Undersecretary is now also titled the Chief Scientist. Dr. Dawn Thilmany was asked to represent the Social Sciences on the Science Advisory Council. Key topics for the Advisory Council include: 1) Research Reliability/Replicability; 2) Citizen Science; and 3) Framing the USDA portfolio on Genetic Innovations. NIFA reported on their new Knowledge Discovery Tools for data mining, mapping and network analysis. The tools will be used to visualize and evaluate the NIFA's portfolio of investments.

NAREEEAB provides advice to the Secretary of Agriculture and land-grant colleges and universities on priorities and policies for food and agricultural research, education, extension and economics. In its ongoing role as advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture, NAREEEAB's main objective is to contribute to effective federal agricultural research, education and economics programs through broad stakeholder feedback and sound science. Dr. Dawn Thilmany represents the National Social Science Associations on NAREEEAB. She provided this report.

Events

Summit on Antimicrobial Stewardship: Policy, Education and Economics

The national [summit](#) will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, January 20 and 21. It is a collaboration of Farm Foundation, NFP, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges, and USDA's Economic Research Service. The summit is the culmination of 13 workshops that have taken place nationwide to provide livestock producers, veterinarians and feed suppliers with information regarding new policies issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on use of antimicrobial drugs in food-producing animals. A report of the workshops will be discussed at the national summit.

USDA 2016 Agricultural Outlook Forum Plenary Panel Announced

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the members of this year's Agricultural Outlook Forum Plenary Panel on "Providing Leadership for Present and Future Generations in the Transformation of Agriculture." The varied backgrounds of this year's panelists—academia, business, farming and media—bring a range of expertise to this discussion on transforming the future of agriculture. The group includes Elizabeth Garrett, President of Cornell University; Ilene Gordon, CEO of Ingredion; Pamela Hess, Executive Director of the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture; and Pam Johnson, an Iowa farmer and former president of National Corn Growers Association. Thirty concurrent track sessions supporting this theme include the Agriculture Talent Pipeline, Bioproducts, Commodities, Land and Tenure Transition, New Markets, Organics, Risk Management, Scientific Advancement, Trade, and Urban Agriculture. Deputy Secretary Harden will also host a session on opportunities in agriculture for new and beginning farmers and host a Women's Agriculture Networking event. The two-day meeting will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, on Thursday and Friday, February 25 and 26, 2016. [Register here](#).

Opportunities**[Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems \(INFEWS\)](#)**

Interdisciplinary research efforts to transform scientific understanding of the food–water–energy nexus are well integrated. The overarching goal of INFEWS is to catalyze them, in order to improve system function and management, address system stress, increase resilience, and ensure sustainability. The NSF INFEWS initiative is designed specifically to attain the following goals: 1) Significantly advance our understanding of the food–energy–water system through quantitative and computational modeling, including support for relevant cyber–infrastructure; 2) Develop real–time, cyber–enabled interfaces that improve understanding of the behavior of FEW systems and increase ability to support decisions; 3) Enable research that will lead to innovative system and technological solutions to critical FEW problems; and 4) Grow the scientific workforce capable of studying and managing the FEW system, through education and other professional development opportunities. Deadline: March 22.

[The Science of Science & Innovation Policy \(SciSIP\)](#)

SciSIP supports research designed to advance the scientific basis of science and innovation policy. The program funds research to develop models, analytical tools, data and metrics that can be applied to the process of making science policy decisions that relate to the use and allocation of scarce scientific resources. For example, research proposals may develop behavioral and analytical conceptualizations, frameworks or models that have broad application in science and innovation policy challenges. Proposals may also develop methodologies to analyze science, technology and innovation data, and to convey that information to a variety of audiences in a useful manner. Proposals are encouraged that create and improve science, engineering and innovation data, including the design of new metrics and indicators, particularly proposals that demonstrate the viability of collecting and analyzing data on knowledge generation and organizational innovation. Deadline: February 9 and September 9.

[Organic Agriculture Grants](#)

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is seeking research grant funding applications from colleges and universities for its [Organic Transitions Program \(ORG\)](#). The program supports the development and implementation of research, extension and higher education programs to improve the competitiveness of organic livestock and crop producers, as well as those adopting organic practices. In FY 2016, ORG will continue to prioritize environmental services provided by organic farming systems in the area of soil conservation, pollinator health, and climate change mitigation. This includes greenhouse gases (GHG), as well as the development of educational tools for Cooperative Extension personnel and other agricultural professionals who advise producers on organic practices, and development of cultural practices and other allowable alternatives to substances recommended for removal from the National Organic Program's National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances. NIFA anticipates having approximately \$3.8 million available in grant funds for the program in FY2016. **Applications due by:** April 15, 2016

[White House SBS Team seeks Fellows](#)

The White House Social and Behavioral Sciences Team (SBST), which uses insights from the social and behavioral sciences to improve federal programs, is accepting applications for new members to serve on the team as Fellows or Associate Fellows. The one-year fellowship begins in October 2016 and is open to PhD or Masters level scientists with expertise in one or more field in the social and behavioral sciences. Deadline: January 24, 2016.

[USDA NIFA Fellowships Grant Program for Undergraduate, Predoctoral, and Postdoctoral Students in the Agricultural Sciences](#)

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture is accepting applications under its AFRI Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences Education and Literacy Initiative (AFRI ELI). This initiative is intended to prepare the next generation of scientists through fellowships for doctoral candidates and post-doctoral scholars; promote research and extension experiential learning for undergraduates such that upon graduation they may enter the agriculture workforce with exceptional skills; and provide immersive learning experiences for secondary school educators, enabling them to identify and replicate best practices to enhance student outcomes. NIFA anticipates having approximately \$18.9 million available in grant funds for the program in FY2016.

Applications Due by:

- * February 11, 2016 for Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships
- * March 18, 2016 for Professional Development Opportunities for Secondary School Teachers
- * March 24, 2016 for Research and Extension Experiential Learning for Undergraduate

Job Openings

Be sure to visit the [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.



Social Media



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Coming up in the next issue of The Exchange...

- Government Relations Update
Be sure to check out the [AAEA Events & Deadlines Calendar](#)