

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence in Service

The Committee on
Women in
Agricultural Economics

Introduction

The Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) (pronounced "see-way") was founded in the summer of 1981. CWAE's purpose is "to promote the welfare of women agricultural economists by representing their interests within the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) and by engaging in activities that will encourage the professional advancement of women agricultural economists." This presentation highlights the organization's achievements and discusses its origin, purpose, and plans for the future.

As a standing committee of the AAEA, and as a newly formed section, CWAE plays a vital role in identifying and defining the changing roles of women in agricultural economics. Members have made significant contributions to the body of research on issues affecting agricultural economics professionals such as career choices and challenges, employment, and gender differences in performance and pay.

CWAE thanks the many individuals, foundations, and organizations who have contributed to its success over the years. Special thanks go to past AAEA presidents, Neil Harl and Luther Tweeten, the Farm Foundation, Agricultural Development Council, AAEA Executive and Foundation Boards, and the Economic Research Service, USDA. Special thanks to the following for their review of and/or contributions to this poster presentation: Dawn Thilmany, Margot Rudstrom, Dori Comer, Janet Perry, Meredith Soule, Mary Ahearn, Charlene Price, Mary Bohman, Lindsay Mann, Anne E. Pearl (Graphic Designer), William Anderson, Katherine R. Smith, and the Special Collections Team of the National Agricultural Library, USDA.

CWAE Activities at a Glance*

Do you know...

...that in 1980, an AAEA Ad Hoc Committee was formed to ascertain the status of women agricultural economists and the need for a women's committee? The members were
Sylvia Lane
Ardelle Lundeen
Linda Lee Moffet
Barbara Redman

What CWAE does

- Highlights women's accomplishments
- Tracks professional progress of women via surveys
- Provides a forum for issues of interest to women agricultural economists
- Provides support network for women agricultural economists
- Provides leadership in career workshops
- Brings visibility to women's research in a variety of agricultural economics and career issues

Some issues addressed by CWAE

- Tenure of women in the profession
- Retention of women in the profession
- Discrimination in hiring and promotions
- Leadership roles for women
- Dual-career family challenges
- Mentoring
- Searching the job market
- Working overseas

*The time periods indicate when the activities began

1981-83

CWAE officially organized with 39 members at the AAEA meeting at Clemson University

1981 Steering Committee:
Ardelle Lundeen (Chair),
Sylvia Lane (Vice Chair),
Linda Lee, Barbara Redman,
Margo Rich Ogus,
Katherine Reichelderfer

Pre/post conferences, invited & organized paper symposia, luncheon

CWAE Newsletter



In memory of the late Deb Brown of Purdue University, CWAE newsletter editor

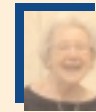
First survey of women agricultural economists shows "significant difference in salary between men and women in the profession" (Lundeen, 1982)

First directory of women agricultural economists published in 1982

1984-93

Sandra S. Batie,
AAEA President,
1989-1990

Sylvia Lane
AAEA Fellow
(1984)



CWAE logo designed by Maureen Kilkenny (1987)
The logo shadow depicts CWAE as part of the broader AAEA structure

CWAE A

Survey on the progress of women agricultural economists found that "universities are much less likely to hire women than are other research institutions, such as ERS" (Ahearn, 1988)

Survey on the progress of agricultural economics faculty women shows "women are not progressing into senior faculty positions in proportion to their numbers" (Unnevehr, 1993)

1994-97

Sandra S. Batie
AAEA Fellow (1994)

Undergraduate
Student Breakfast

Sylvia Lane
Mentor Research
Fellowship Program (SLF)
(Fellowship named in her honor, 1995)

First SLF recipient,
Florence Tangka
(University of Florida),
1995

CWAENET
(E-bulletin board) 1995

CWAE website
<http://www.aaea.org/CWAE>
(1997)



"Women You Should Know" symposium (1995)

1998-2001

Annual Employment
Tracking Surveys of
female, minorities, and
male members of the
profession (since 1998)

Adelman, 1998 AAEA
Fellow w/colleagues



L to r: Katherine Ralston,
Sylvia Lane, Elise Golan,
Betsey Kuhn, Irma
Adelman, George Frisvold,
and Mary Marchant

AAEA Fellows: Uma Lele
(1999), Nancy Bockstael
and Jean Kinsey (2000)

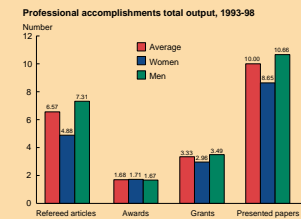
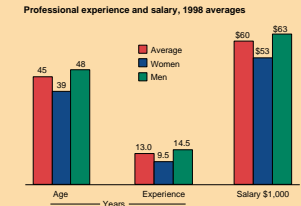
Ahmed, 2000 Sylvia Lane
Fellow w/colleagues



L to r: Sylvia Lane, Hiba
Ahmed, Michigan State U.,
and Jean Kinsey

1999 SLF recipients:
Deanne Hackman (UMO)
and Armineh Zohrabian (AU)

Jean Kinsey, AAEA
President, 2001-2002



The figures above show how CWAE's employment tracking survey results are used to monitor professional progress.

(Source: Thilmany, Dawn, "Gender Based Differences of Performance and Pay Among Agricultural Economics Faculty," *Review of Agricultural Economics*, Spring/Summer 2000, vol. 22, pp. 23-33.)

Conclusion

In the future, CWAE will continue to serve the AAEA community by bringing visibility to the research and leadership skills of women in the profession. CWAE's 2000 *annual report on the status of women in the agricultural economics profession* included the following highlights. Women continue to enter the academic profession, though the agricultural economics research area remains predominantly male. Women accounted for 30 percent of the 729 students enrolled in fall 1998 doctoral programs in agricultural business and management. Salaries of recent Ph.D. and M.S. women were almost identical with those of men. Women agricultural economists have successfully moved into senior positions in government. Additionally, women are actively involved in the leadership of AAEA, serving on the Executive and Foundation boards and several committees. Women continue to receive numerous awards for their research.

Doris J. Newton - RED - Economic Research Service
visit us at our website: <http://www.ers.usda.gov>



United States Department of Agriculture

