2005 – Outstanding Black Agricultural Economists Honorees

Soji Adelaja, Michigan State University
Akin Adesina, Rockefeller Foundation, Kenya
William Amponsah, North Carolina A&T University
Curtis Jolly, Auburn University
Desmond Jolly, University of California
Donald McDowell, North Carolina A&T University
Albert Myles, Mississippi State University
Edmund Tavernier, Rutgers University
Ababayehu Tegene, USDA-Economic Research Service
Dave Weatherspoon, Michigan State University

Honorable Mentions

Duncan M. Chembezi, Alabama A&M University
Patricia E. McLean-Meynsse, Southern University and A&M College
Doris Newton, USDA-Economic Research Service
Zacch I. Olorunniwa, Florida A&M University
Mark D. Wenner, Inter-American Development Bank

About CWAE

The Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics (CWAE) is a section of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA).

CWAE’s purpose is to promote the welfare of women agricultural economists by representing their interests and by engaging in activities which encourage their professional advancement.

CWAE is present at the annual meetings of the AAEA and the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) in organized symposia, principal paper sessions, workshops, and free sessions. Additionally, CWAE hosts social events at the annual AAEA meetings, such as the CWAE Luncheon.

CWAE represents women, reports on their status in the profession, and voices their concerns to the AAEA Board at the annual meetings. CWAE collaborates with other AAEA subcommittees and sections.

CWAE also collaborates with the Committee on the Status of Women in the Economic Profession (CSWEP).

About COSBAE

The Committee on the Opportunities and Status of blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE) is a section of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA).

COSBAE’s purpose is to promote the welfare of Black agricultural economists by representing their interests and by engaging in activities which encourage their professional advancement.

COSBAE is present at the annual meetings of the AAEA and the Southern Agricultural Economics Association in organized symposia, principal paper sessions, workshops, and free sessions. COSBAE also hosts social events at the annual AAEA meetings such as the COSBAE reception and special collaborative events such as today’s luncheon with CWAE.

COSBAE/CWAE LUNCHEON

In Association with the Track on Diversity in the Workplace is Honored to Present

Guest Speaker

Clifton Wharton, Jr.,
Former Chairman and CEO of TIAA-CREF

Tuesday, July 26, 2005
12 NOON – 1:30 p.m.
AAEA Annual Meeting Convention Center Ballroom E Providence, Rhode Island
Dr. Clifton Wharton, Jr. has been a Black pioneer in four different fields – philanthropy, foreign economic development, higher education and business.

He is the former Chairman and CEO of TIAA-CREF, the world’s largest pension fund with assets of $300 billion. He thereby became the first Black to become CEO of a Fortune 500 company. Among his previous pioneering positions are President of Michigan State University (1970-78) the first Black to head a predominantly white major university; Chancellor of the State University of New York System (1978-87), this nation’s largest university system with 64 campuses; and Chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation (1982-87). The son of a career Foreign Service Officer and Ambassador, Dr. Wharton has served six presidents in foreign policy advisory posts and in 1993 was appointed by President Clinton as Deputy Secretary, the second highest post in the U.S. Department of State.

Dr. Wharton’s first 22 year philanthropic career began in Latin America with Nelson Rockefeller. Subsequently, he was resident in Southeast Asia from 1958 to 1964 representing the Agricultural Department Council, a foundation headed by John D. Rockefeller 3rd. During this period he also supervised the foundation’s programs in Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, as well as taught economics at the University of Malaya. His research ranged from the supply response of Southeast Asian perennial crops to the economic impact of the Green Revolution. Among his major publications were Subsistence Agriculture and Economic Development (1969) and Research on Agricultural Development in Southeast Asia (1965).

Dr. Wharton was a member of the Presidential Task Force on Agriculture to Vietnam in 1966, and of the Presidential Mission to Latin America in 1969. Elected a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 1988, he was the first Chairman of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development, U.S. AID and received the President’s Award on World Hunger in 1983.

Among his former corporate directorships are Ford Motor Company, Time-Warner, Equitable Life, Tenneco Inc., Federated Department Stores, Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), New York Stock Exchange, Harcourt General, TIAA-CREF and Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He holds a BA honors degree in history from Harvard, an MA from the School of Advanced International Studies of John Hopkins University, a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago, and has been awarded 62 honorary doctorates. In 1994, he received the American Council on Education Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Achievement and in 1970 was named Boston Latin School Man of the Year.

His wife, Dolores D. Wharton, has had her own distinguished career as a corporate director of Gannett, Phillips Petroleum, the Kellogg Company, COMSAT, New York Telephone, Albany Capital Bank and Trust, and as a trustee of many non-profit organizations such as MIT, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, National Public Radio, the Asia Foundation, the Asia Society and the Museum of Modern Art. She is the founder and CEO of the Fund for Corporate Initiatives, Inc. to increase the upward mobility of women and minorities in the corporate world. She has received nine honorary doctorates.