

The Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No. 3

Fall 1988

Message From The Chair

Last year (1987-88) proved to be another productive one for the Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics. The Committee published its first Newsletter in the Summer of 1987, two other newsletters followed in the Spring and Summer of 1988. The Committee continued to work on a number of projects, sponsored invited paper sessions, organized symposia, and receptions at the AAEA meetings. On behalf of members of the Committee, I wish to extend appreciation to Joyce Allen for the outstanding leadership provided on these and other activities as Committee Chair. Recognition is also extended to former chairpersons (Richard Robbins, Sidney Evans, and Ralph Christy) for the valuable leadership provided from the committee's inception. Special Thanks to those individuals who rotate off of the Committee this year: Joyce Allen, Tesfa Ghebremedhin and Vin Samuel. The Committee welcomes Eugene Jones, Hezekiah Jones, and Patricia McLean-Meynsse. Your comments, suggestions and new ideas are welcomed.

The 1988-89 year is shaping up to be both exciting and challenging. A number of projects which have been in the planning stages for several months are scheduled for completion in 1989. Attention will also focus on plans for the Committee beyond the 1988-89 period.

For several months the Committee has been in the process of planning a project aimed at commemorating the Centennial of the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Significant progress has been made. Much work remains. Three major activities associated with the Committee project are: (1) Pre-Conference Program to be held during the 1989 AAEA meetings (Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, July 30, 1989), (2) development and dissemination of a brochure on Contemporary Black Agricultural Economists, and (3) exhibits on the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions to be displayed at the 1989 AAEA meetings. This is a significant Committee effort and will require some attention to details in order to be successful. Leadership on this Committee project is as follows:

1. Program and Proceedings. Ralph Christy and Lionel Williamson, Co-Chair; Members: Handy Williamson, Jr., and Tesfa Ghebremedhin. *UNIV. OF KY*
2. Brochure - Contemporary Black Agricultural Economists. Chairperson: Doris Newton; Members: Vin G. Samuel, Magid Dagher, Dewitt Jones, and Hezekiah Jones. *N.S. Dept. of Agr. Sci.*
3. Exhibits on the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Sidney Evans, Chairman; Members: Magid Dagher, Alfred Parks and Alton Thompson. *ARKANSAS*

Additional names will be added to these committees. Should you desire to work with the Committee, please contact me immediately. We need your input.

The Newsletter has served as an important vehicle for disseminating information on Committee activities, notable activities of Black Agricultural Economists, professional meetings and employment opportunities.

Ralph D. Christy and Doris Newton will continue to serve as Co-Editors of the Newsletter. Your comments, suggestions, or information that you wish to submit are welcomed.

The Directory of Black Agricultural Economists has enjoyed wide circulation and use for communication purposes. The Committee is in the process of updating the directory and anticipates distribution in November. The revised directory will include the names, addresses, educational background, place of employment and other information on each of the more than 130 Agricultural Economists. Donald McDowell will provide the leadership on this project. If you have names that you wish to have included in the Directory, please forward them to Donald.

The Committee is in the process of fine tuning a proposal which will be submitted to the Editor of the "Review of Black Political Economy". The anticipated result of this project is a special issue of the "Review" with articles written by agricultural economists focusing on topics which have appeal to both rural and urban audiences. Leadership on this Committee project will be provided by Donald McDowell, Joyce Allen, Patricia McLean-Meynsse, and Alton Thompson.

The Committee will continue its efforts to encourage Black Agricultural Economists involvement in all activities of both the American Association of Agricultural Economics and the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists. Pre-meeting Conferences, Organized Symposia Sessions, Invited Paper Sessions, AAEA Committees, SAAS Committees, and other professional meetings provide excellent opportunities for our involvement. Leadership on this project will be provided by Ivery Clifton, Bernard Ervin, Eugene Jones, and Tesfa Ghebremedhin.

The Committee has established an excellent record of accomplishments during its relatively short existence. Results of a survey conducted by Vin Samuel indicate your desire to have the Committee address a number of issues which I believe to be important. To respond to your requests, a long range planning committee is being appointed to draft a set of long range plans which are compatible with the Committee's original mission. Your input will be especially needed in this process. Leadership on this project will be provided by Carlton Davis, Joyce Allen, Richard Douglas, Ralph Christy, and Lionel Williamson.

The Committee will continue to meet twice a year - during the annual meetings of the SAEA and the AAEA. Meetings are open to anyone who has an interest in assisting the Committee in reaching its objectives. Suggestions that you may have relative to any of the Committee's current projects are invited. If you are unable to attend the Committee's scheduled meetings and have comments or suggestions, please feel free to call me at (606) 257-1637, or forward your written comments to me at: Lionel Williamson, Committee Chairman, Department of Agricultural Economics, Room 311, Agricultural Science Building, South, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546. I look forward to hearing from you and serving as your Chair for 1988-89.

CLIFTON R. WHARTON, JR., NAMED AAEA FELLOW

NEW YORK, NY -- Clifton R. Wharton, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association - College Equities Fund, is one of four distinguished economists elected a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association, the most prestigious award in the Agricultural Economics profession. Dr. Wharton's election was announced last Summer by AAEA President David Padberg at the AAEA's annual awards dinner in Knoxville, Tennessee.

The AAEA is the national professional association of agricultural economists whose members range from Kenneth Galbraith of Harvard University to Theodore Schultz, the Nobel Laureate at the University of Chicago, who was Dr. Wharton's major professor while he was earning his doctorate. Dr. Wharton is the first Black to be elected a Fellow by the AAEA.

In its tribute to Dr. Wharton, the AAEA stated that:

"During his executive years, Dr. Wharton has remained active and widely recognized as a world leader in economic development. He has been appointed to several Presidential commissions and task forces. History will record his unique role in serving as the Chairman of the Presidentially appointed Board for International Food and Agricultural Development from 1976 to 1983. During that period of unease he helped guide cooperative relationships between Land Grant Universities and the Agency for International Development.

Dr. Wharton must be recognized as a world-class professional who established a solid career in the academic field. His work affected the lives of many, not only the millions of subsistence farmers over the world, but also the orientation of professionals in development. Wharton mastered an exceedingly difficult area of economic analysis and stands tall in the profession in obtaining a wider understanding and application of the fundamentals in development."

Dr. Wharton has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the \$64 billion TIAA-CREF since February 1, 1987. He was Chancellor of the State University of New York for the previous nine years, and was President of Michigan State University for eight years prior to that.

In 1957, Dr. Wharton began his professional career with the American International Association for Economic and Social Development, set up by Nelson A. Rockefeller to work on development in Latin America. From 1958 to 1964, he directed the work of the Agricultural Development Council in Southeast Asia. During these years he was also a visiting Professor at the University of Malaya engaged in teaching and research on the development problems of the region.

Other past winners of the AAEA Fellow Award include Professor Schultz of The University of Chicago, and Dr. Arthur T. Mosher, former President of the Agricultural Development Council, who was one of Dr. Wharton's early mentors.

TIAA-CREF provides a nationwide portable pension system for employees of some 4,100 colleges, universities, independent schools and related non-profit educational and research organizations. Today, TIAA-CREF policyholders number over one million individuals. Our hats off to Cliff!

For Your Professional Calendar

PROFESSIONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS CONFERENCE

The 46th Professional Agricultural Workers Conference will be held at Tuskegee University, December 4 - 6, 1988. "Critical Issues and Policy for Rural Disadvantaged People and Communities - The Social Science Perspective - Land-Grant Universities Outreach Activities" is the theme. Registration fee is \$115 (includes conference materials, a copy of the proceedings, banquet, luncheons). A special registration fee of \$50 is available for students and retirees. For additional information contact:

Dr. Walter Hill, Dean
College of Agriculture
Tuskegee University
Tuskegee, Alabama 36088
Phone: (205) 727-8157

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association will be held at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, July 30 - August 3, 1989.

SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, February 5 - 9, 1989. For additional information, contact:

Mike Ellerbrock, Secretary-Treasurer
Southern Agricultural Economics Association
Agricultural Sciences Department
East Texas State University
Commerce, TX 75428
Phone: (214) 886-5174

THE NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is published by the Committee on Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics. The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness at Louisiana State University serves as host institution. If you have any information you wish to have placed in the NEWSLETTER, please forward to:

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The NEWSLETTER is prepared by Ms. Susan K. Duhe.

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Employment Opportunities

Department Head, Department of Finance and Economics,
Georgia Southern College, Landrum Box 8151,
Statesboro, GA 30460-8151.

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: Applicants should have an earned doctorate, a successful record of research and publication, and administrative experience in an academic setting. Preference will be given to a person with a finance field of commercial banking or financial institutions. Appointment may be at either Associate or Professor rank.

CONTRACT PERIOD: The position will be available September 1989. The appointment is a 12 month, tenure-track position.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 31, 1989

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Send resume and credentials to: Dr. Herbert A. O'Keefe, Search Committee, Department of Accounting, Georgia Southern College, L. B. 8141, Statesboro, GA 30460-8141.

Georgia Southern is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer, and minority and women applicants are especially encouraged to apply.

Senior Agricultural Economist, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (Nigeria).

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: Work is on rice-based farming systems in its Resource and Crop Management Program. Requires Ph.D. or equivalent in Agricultural Economics with emphasis on production economics. Minimum of 4 years experience on farming systems in the tropics.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications should include a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees (including telephone and telex numbers, if available) and other pertinent information. Send to the following addresses: Manager, Human Resources (IITA) c/o Lambourn and Company, Ltd., 26 Dingwall Road, Croydon CR9 3EE, UK; or Manager, Human Resources International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Oyo Road, PMB 5320, Ibadan, Nigeria.

Agricultural Economist, Agency for International Development (Pakistan).

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: USAID is requesting expressions of interest from agricultural economists for a two-year contract assignment in Pakistan. The selected candidate will be asked to analyze the agricultural situation in Afghanistan for the purposes of designing agricultural assistance projects to revitalize the agricultural sector in Afghanistan. The principal duty station probably will be Peshawar, Pakistan. Required qualifications include a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics and a minimum of 10 years of experience in LDC Agricultural Economics. Familiarity with

Afghan agriculture, prior experience in Afghanistan or nearby countries, and fluency in Dari or Pushtu would all be highly desirable though not required.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Send two copies of resume' to: Deal Alter, AID/ANE/TR/ARD, Room 4440 NS, Washington, DC 20523.

Senior Research Economists, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: Cornell University is seeking Senior Research Economists for a four-year project to plan and implement research on the effects of macroeconomic policies on food security in Africa. Extensive interaction with host and donor country officials will be required. Oversight of primary data collection efforts and establishment of project field offices may be necessary. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in Economics or Agricultural Economics, strong quantitative skills, and proven experience in econometric modeling. Strong background in macroeconomics and/or demand analysis is required. This position will be located in Washington, DC, with frequent travel to Africa. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Send letter, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references to: Director/CFNPP, Cornell University, 2033 M. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Cornell University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

Head and Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must have a Ph.D. degree and professional experience in Agricultural Economics, Economics or a related area. The new head should have leadership, communication and administrative abilities and appreciation for both the diverse interests and missions of the department as well as for the Land Grant University philosophy. The successful candidate will have demonstrated a strong record of scholarly achievement.

DEADLINE: Applications will be accepted until January 16, 1989, or until a suitable candidate is identified.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications should be directed to: R. L. Thompson, Dean of Agriculture, Agricultural Administration Building, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907. Include a curriculum vita with a list of publications and the names of five persons who may be contacted for references. Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Regional Director (3 positions available), Penn State Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: The individual filling the position of Regional Director is the Penn State Cooperative Extension administrative

officer and program leader for one of five designated geographic regions within Pennsylvania. The Regional Director reports directly to the Dean of the College of Agriculture. Specific duties include: (1) Develop and administer the cooperative extension program and budget for the assigned geographic region; (2) Supervise County Extension Directors within the region; (3) Provide guidance, counsel and assistance to County Extension Directors and staff to ensure that program development and implementation is effective and meets the needs of College clientele; (4) Work with County Extension Directors and respective county extension boards in the formulation of county policies which are consistent with state, federal, and university policies; (5) Develop and maintain a positive relationship with county commissioners, legislators and other key individuals to foster support for continued development and growth of Penn State Cooperative Extension; (6) Develop and implement an Affirmative Action Plan for the region. Ensure that all Cooperative Extension programs are directed toward achieving improved participation and performance for the disadvantaged, alienated, minority and ethnic clientele, in accordance with University and USDA civil rights policies; and (7) Participate in developing and implementing statewide College programs and policy.

QUALIFICATIONS: All candidates will have a Doctorate, plus the following attributes: (1) A significant period of professional and/or administrative experience with a strong record of Cooperative Extension activities; (2) Understanding of the Land-Grant University system; (3) Experience in or substantial knowledge of University extension, research and resident education functions; (4) Demonstrated administrative and program leadership; (5) Ability to work effectively with agricultural producers, agricultural industry, government, and other public and private organizations.

LOCATION: The three positions available include the Western region of Pennsylvania and two regions in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

DEADLINE: December 5, 1988, or until suitable candidates are identified.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applicants should submit a letter of application, three letters of reference, and resume' to Dr. Paul J. Wangsness, Chairman, Search Committee, 325 D Henning Building, University Park, PA 16802. Applicants only wishing to be considered for a particular region should include a statement to that effect in their letter of application. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer, women and minorities encouraged to apply.

Notables

Dr. Lionel Williamson, University of Kentucky, is on a six week assignment in Indonesia beginning on August 29th. He will work with university officials in developing a curricula on cooperatives.

Jacqueline Ponder recently received a M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Kentucky. She has accepted a position as a Commodity Trader Trainee with Cargill, Inc.

Dr. Melvin Walker was appointed Acting President, Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia.

Dr. T. T. Williams has accepted a position as Regional Director of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Regional Director, Suite 1515, 101 Marietta Tower, Atlanta Georgia 30323.

Doris Newton has returned to work at the ERS, USDA after a 1 year leave of absence.

Jackie Bhola resigned her position at ERS, USDA, to move to Richmond, Virginia.

Fellowships

PRESIDENT'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM, The University of California.

In order to improve the quality and diversity of university faculty and to encourage outstanding minority and women Ph.D. degree holders to pursue academic careers at the University of California, The Regents of the University in 1984 established the President's Fellowship Program. Appointments are for one academic year, beginning July 1, with renewal for a second year pending demonstration of satisfactory progress. The stipend is \$22,000 to \$28,000, depending on discipline and experience.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, and must hold or receive a Ph.D. from an accredited university. Preference is given to minority and women candidates historically underrepresented in higher education. Applications are encouraged from Afro-Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, Filipinos, Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans, and from women in Physical Sciences, Mathematics or Engineering.

For further information and application materials write to: President's Fellowship Program, University of California, Office of the President, 359 University Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720, Phone: (415) 643-6507.

All application materials must be received by January 5, 1989. Awards will be announced in April 1989.

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POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) is offering a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for one year (possibly a second year) to promising applicants in all academic fields to train more underrepresented minorities for research careers. The fellowships include stipends of \$25,000 - 30,000, plus reimbursement of some transportation, health insurance, and research-related expenses.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents with an appropriate terminal degree in hand before appointment begins. Preference will be given to high achievers in disciplines of limited postdoctoral opportunities. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, statement of proposed research, sample publications/dissertation chapters, and letters of reference from three evaluators by December 1, 1988 to: Joseph Smith, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Swanlund Administration Building, 601 E John Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

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ROCKEFELLER FELLOWSHIPS

The Rockefeller Foundation is offering social science research fellowships to up to 10 persons holding recent social science doctorates for two-year appointments in developing countries. Fellows will be assigned to international agricultural research institutes in developing countries and will be expected to participate fully in the work of the host centers.

Candidates should have received a Ph.D. after December 1984 or should expect to do so before September 1989. The program is open to citizens of the USA and Canada and sub-Saharan African countries. The deadline for North American residents is December 31, 1988. For persons applying from Africa, the deadline is January 31, 1989.

Further information about the program can be obtained from: The Fellowship Office, Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

ROCKEFELLER INTERNSHIPS

Doctoral students enrolled in U.S. universities who are from sub-Saharan Africa are invited to apply to the Rockefeller Foundation for dissertation research support. Priority will be given to research topics in the fields of agricultural, health and life sciences, but other proposals are welcome.

Applicants are responsible for arranging an affiliation with an African Institution able to provide needed research support, such as laboratory facilities, access to study sites, and technical advice. The candidate's U.S. faculty advisor, the host institution in Africa, and the funding agency with primary responsibility for financing the student's graduate work must all endorse the application.

Deadline for applications is March 1, 1989. Preliminary inquiries are encouraged to determine the appropriateness of the research topic and the proposed institutional setting in Africa. Candidates should apply well in advance of the expected field work starting date. For a full description of the competition and the application requirements, write to: African Dissertation Internship Awards, The Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

COMMITTEE ON OPPORTUNITIES AND STATUS OF BLACKS IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, 1988-89*

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* Appointed by Dr. Lester V. Manderscheid, President, American Agricultural Economics Association.