

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

Vol. 3, No. 1

Spring 1989

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Pre-Conference Program

Plans for our pre-conference symposium on "Past, Present and Future Roles of 1890 Institutions" are approaching the final stages. Speakers, panelists, presiders, and others who will appear on the program have been identified, contacted, and in most cases their participation has been confirmed. The pre-conference program will be hosted by Southern University and Louisiana State University. The pre-conference, which will be held on the campus of Southern University, will begin on Sunday, July 30, 1989 at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m. Specific details about the pre-conference will be provided in a separate section of this newsletter.

You are invited to attend and participate in this most important event.

Brochure of Outstanding Black Agricultural Economists

In conjunction with the pre-conference program, a brochure recognizing the achievements of some blacks in agricultural economics is being developed. The brochure sub-committee, chaired by Doris Newton, has developed a criteria for selecting individuals to be included in the brochure; established nomination procedures; established a selection committee; developed a format for the brochure; established a cost estimate; and provided a timetable for completion of the brochure. Specific information relative to the brochure is also provided in a separate section of this newsletter.

Special Publication

Several months ago, a sub-committee was appointed to explore the feasibility of several agricultural economists writing a series of papers to be published as a special issue of the "Review of Black Political Economy." The sub-committee is in the process of finalizing all details necessary to accomplish this objective. We believe that these papers will provide a unique perspective on a number of issues facing blacks in both rural and urban areas.

The committee appreciates your many comments and suggestions relative to issues for our long-term agenda. We look forward to seeing you at the Pre-Conference Program in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this summer.

Lionel Williamson

A LOOK AT FORT VALLEY STATE COLLEGE

[Editor's Note: To commemorate the upcoming centennial year for historically Black Land Grant Colleges and Universities (commonly known as "1890 Institutions"), this and future newsletters will feature an article on one of these institutions.]

Fort Valley State College (FVSC) in Fort Valley, Georgia, began as a high school in 1895 and by 1913 had progressed to a normal and industrial school with the aid of the American Church Institute.

When the state assumed control of the school in 1939, Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School and the State Teachers and Agricultural College at Forsythe were merged to form the current institution.

A four year curriculum in agriculture was established in 1945, and two years later Fort Valley was designated "land grant" college for Negroes because of its progress over time in outreach and agriculture. Majors were offered in such specialty areas as agronomy, animal science, horticulture, plant, and soil science by 1954.

The Agricultural Economics program accepted its first freshman class in the Fall of 1980. Of the 190 credit hours required to complete the program, 47 are in Agricultural Economics. Courses include Farm Records and Taxation, Land Economics, Production Economics, Agricultural Policy, Agricultural Price Analysis, Natural Resources, and Environmental Economics.

As of 1988, seventeen students have graduated from the Agricultural program, 53 percent with academic honors. Approximately 25 percent of all graduates have completed M.A. degrees and another 25 percent are currently enrolled in M.A. programs. More than half of the graduates have cooperative education experiences or internships during their college tenure. The program presently has 23 students.

Students have the opportunity to work on research projects. Current research efforts at FVSC include work on the following topics: "The Structure of Southern Agriculture," "Labor Force Experiences of Persons Trained in Schools and Colleges of Agriculture" (S-200 regional project), and "Examination of the Demand, Knowledge and Use of Goat Products." The FVSC research faculty include Drs. E. Yvonne Beauford-Oliver, Nathaniel Brown, Jr., and Mack Nelson.

FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

Premeeting Conference: AAEA

Agricultural Economics and Rural Development Programs at the 1890s: Past, Present, and Future - Sunday, July 30, Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA

The AAEA Committee on the Opportunity and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics invites you to a premeeting conference on "Agricultural Economics and Development Programs at the 1890s: Past, Present, and Future" on Sunday, July 30, 1989 at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

This conference, which begins AAEA's centennial celebration of the establishment of the 1890 colleges and universities, will focus on a historical overview of the 1890 colleges and universities; assess current teaching, research, extension and international programs; and evaluate alternative scenarios for the future of minorities in higher education.

The conference will include keynote speakers (college presidents) from 1890 and 1862 colleges and universities, past AAEA presidents, and noted educators from through the USA.

A \$30 registration fee includes a luncheon, shuttle services between Southern University and selected hotels, and a campus tour. Registration materials will be included with the AAEA annual meeting preregistration packet. For additional information, contact Lionel Williamson, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40596, (606) 257-1637, or Ralph Christy, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, (504) 388-3284.

Tentative Program

- I. "Historical Overview of the Development of the 1890 Land-Grant System." Dr. Fred Humphries, President Florida A & M University

"Development of Agricultural Economics Programs." Drs. T. T. Williams, Health and Human Resources, and Sid Evans, North Carolina A & T University

- II. "A Contemporary View of 1890 Institutions."

Resident Instruction: Dr. Leroy Davis
Southern University

Research: Dr. McKinley Mayes, CSRS, USDA

Extension: Dr. Dan Godfrey
North Carolina A & T University

International Programs: Dr. Handy Williamson, Jr.
University of Tennessee

Luncheon

- III. The Future of Minorities in Higher Education.

"Future Role of the 1890s."
Dr. Benjamin Payton, President
Tuskegee University

"Higher Education and Minorities."
Dr. Clifton Wharton, CEO and Chairman
TIAA/CREFT

IV. Panel Discussion

Past President, AAEA
President, 1890 University
President, 1862 University

Conference - Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS)

The 4th Annual MANRRS Conference will be held April 21 - 23, 1989 at Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia, and is co-hosted by Fort Valley and the University of Georgia.

The organization's objective is to promote and foster careers in the food and agricultural sciences among minorities. This year's conference theme is "Graduate Education: Your Key To A Secure Future."

Any institution, agency or company concerned with minority recruitment should attend this conference.

For further information on the conference call (912) 825-6320 or 825-6344.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Leader - Agricultural Economics and Resource Development, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Institute of Agriculture, Agricultural Extension Service.

The Leader, Agricultural Economics and Resource Development, is responsible for providing leadership and supervision of the Section's staff, and for providing leadership in development, implementation, and evaluation of a statewide Agricultural Economics and Resource Development education program for youth and adults. The Leader is responsible for the development of appropriate subject-matter materials and the use of effective teaching methods for use in Extension educational programs. The

THE NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter is published by the Committee on Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics. Ralph D. Christy and Doris Newton serve as Co-Editors of the NEWSLETTER. The Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness at Louisiana State University will serve as host institution. If you have any information you wish to have placed in the NEWSLETTER, please forward to:

Ralph D. Christy, Co-Editor
Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Phone: (504) 388-3284

or

Doris Newton, Co-Editor
USDA/ERS
1301 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005

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

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: OUTSTANDING BLACK
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS**

The American Agricultural Economics Association Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics will honor several outstanding Black agricultural economists in a brochure to be published in conjunction with the centennial celebration of the 1890 (historically Black) Land Grant Colleges and Universities. Below are the nomination procedures.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES.

The primary consideration for nominees shall be significant contribution to the field of agricultural economics and agriculture related disciplines (i.e. agribusiness). Achievements may be in the field of research, teaching, extension, administration, business or public service.

1. All Black agricultural economists may nominate 1 or more of their colleagues, living or deceased, for this honor.
2. All nominee names must be submitted in writing to:

Doris J. Newton, Chairperson
Brochure Subcommittee
USDA-ERS
1301 New York Ave., NW - Rm 1108D
Washington, D.C. 20005-4788

no later than May 1, 1989.

3. Nominations must include a vitae on each nominee. A statement in support of the nominee(s) is encouraged.

For more information contact Doris Newton at
(202) 786-1866.

Leader will be responsible for developing and conducting educational programs in the area of general Agricultural Economics and Resource Development. This position will be responsible for maintaining interdepartmental liaison with other Extension Sections to facilitate and coordinate transfer of information and for maintaining good working relationships with other divisions of the Institute of Agriculture, units of the University of Tennessee, agribusiness firms and organizations.

Ph.D in Agricultural Economics, plus a minimum of three years experience in extension required.

Applications accepted until April 3, 1989, or until a qualified applicant is accepted. Application forms are available upon request. Mail inquiries to: Dr. Billy G. Hicks, Associate Dean, Agricultural Extension Service, P. O. Box 1071 Knoxville, TN 37901-1071.

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY - Department of Agricultural Economics, New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Director of program in Personal Enterprise and Small Business Management and Associate or Full Professor, tenured or tenure track, 12 month position.

Starting date: January 1, 1990, or as negotiated.

A Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, Business, or a related field is required. Also, exemplary teaching skills and the ability to successfully identify and solve researchable issues facing enterprises and small businesses.

Applicants are to submit a letter of application, resume, academic transcript of the Ph.D. degree if conferred after 1989, and the names and addresses of three references to:

William G. Tomek, Chairman
Department of Agricultural Economics
102 Warren Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact any member of the search committee (Bruce Anderson, Richard Aplin, Edward McLaughlin, David BenDaniel, and Loren Tauer) for additional information.

The closing date for the position is May 30, 1989.

TRAINING

[Note: Students majoring in Agricultural Economics are welcomed to apply].

16TH ANNUAL AEA SUMMER PROGRAM FOR MINORITY STUDENTS

Where: Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

What: An eight-week intensive program in intermediate micro and macroeconomics, mathematics for economists and applied econometrics for promising Black, Hispanic, and Native American undergraduates who are interested in pursuing the Ph.D. in Economics.

When: June 7 - August 2, 1989

Cost: Costs of travel, housing, food, tuition, books and instructional materials will be paid by the American Economic Association for all those accepted as participants. In addition, students will receive a cash stipend of \$1,250.

Application: Interested students should submit a completed application form, two letters of recommendation from professors, and an official college transcript. Preference will be given to applications received by April 14, 1989. Later applications may be considered, but this is not guaranteed. Students whose application materials are submitted by April 14 will be notified of their acceptance by April 30.

For application forms and further information please write:

Michael A. Leeds, Managing Director
AEA Summer Minority Program
Economics Department
Temple University
Philadelphia, PA 19122

Phone: (215) 787-8030 and (215) 787-6637

NOTABLES

Sidney Evans retirement banquet will be held Tuesday, April 18, 1989 at 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Four Seasons, Greensboro, North Carolina. Congratulations Sid!