

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

## **NEWSLETTER**

**Vol. 6, No. 1**

**Spring 1992**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

Greetings from Knoxville!

The Winter Meeting of COSBAE is behind us. We had a successful meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, during which our local member-host (Lionel Williamson) treated the committee and supporters to a special brand of Kentucky hospitality. Also we successfully built elements of an agenda for our Summer meeting to be held during the AAEA meeting in Baltimore, MD. During that meeting I will enthusiastically "pass the gavel" to our incoming chairperson. Of course, I would not pass the gavel without delivering a "State of COSBAE" vignette, and making my last attempt at being the committee almoner.

These are truly exciting times in the "life" of COSBAE. I note, as your chairperson, that the committee is experiencing cooperation from among our membership and supporters which is literally astounding. All of the Working-Groups, assigned to specific tasks some 16 months ago, continue to deliver quality results. The agenda of other important organizations are being impacted by messages from and participation by COSBAE colleagues. Several of our core membership group have been granted promotions and/or recognition. Others have successfully relocated to accept greater opportunity, responsibility, and reward. Within AAEA and SAEA, COSBAE members (cont'd pg. 2, col. 1)

### **RBPE: SPECIAL ISSUE**

A forthcoming special issue of **THE REVIEW OF BLACK POLITICAL ECONOMY (RBPE)** will focus on the "Political Economy of Blacks in Rural America." The Review is published by the National Economic Association (NEA) and is a scholarly journal devoted to the examination of issues related to the economic status of black and Third World peoples.

James Steward (The Pennsylvania State University) is editor of the journal and Joyce Allen (University of Illinois) is serving as co-editor for the special issue which will include the following papers: "Domestic Food Programs, Hunger and Undernutrition in Rural America: How Secure is the Safety Net?" by Carlton Davis (University of Florida), "Survival Strategies of Successful Black Farmers" by Patricia McLean-Meyinsee and Adell Brown (Southern University), and "Economic Development in Southern Black Belt Counties: How Does It Measure Up?" by Donald Bellamy (Economic Research Service, USDA) and Alfred Parks (Prairie View A&M University). Members of the NEA will automatically receive the issue. If you would like to join the NEA contact: Dr. Alfred L. Edwards, NEA Secretary-Arbor, MI 48104-1234.

Funding for the special issue of the Review of Black Political Economy was secured from the Farm Foundation by Handy Williamson, Jr.

## MESSAGE (cont'd.)

are being recognized, challenged and constructively involved. While much has been accomplished, the future beckons us to do MORE, in order that we may raise expectations for greater success.

Areas in which we continue to experience success are: (1) planning and orchestration of successful symposia during meetings of AAEA, SAEA, RSS, NEA, ASSA; 2) laying the groundwork for special activities with CWAE; 3) conducting analysis in the sensitive area of "membership welfare" at professional places of employment; 4) promoting the involvement of COSBAE members in leadership roles within the professional societies; 5) publication of the special issue of the Review of Black Political Economy; (6) publication of a book entitled, A Century of Service: The 1890 Land Grant Colleges and Universities; 7) developing proposals for special activities such as "The Black Economic Summit" and the lecture series (during AAEA's annual meeting) named in honor of a prominent African-American economist; 8) publication of the COSBAE Brochure of "Outstanding Black Agricultural Economists"; 9) publication of the COSBAE Membership Directory called, "Directory of Black Agricultural Economists"; 10) publication of the COSBAE Newsletter; and 11) raising funds, friends and expectations. For more details on these activities, please attend your COSBAE meetings!

Looking ahead, it is imperative that we continue our strivings and successes in the initiatives listed above. We will need to fine-tune our initiatives, while investing the collective energy to insure success. In doing so, we will be able to meet our "identity crisis" head-on and emerge with a well defined mission and a stronger sense thereof. Moreover, we will be able to define and carry out roles as COSBAE members, within the

structures of AAEA, SAEA, and within the profession.

Best wishes to all.

Handy Williamson, Jr.  
Professor and Chairman  
COSBAE

## FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL CALENDAR

**MANRRS Annual Conference**  
Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) 7th Annual Conference/Career Fair, Purdue Univ., W. Lafayette, IN, April 3-4, 1992. **THEME: The Changing Face of Agriculture.**  
**CONTACT:** Rebecca Goetz at (317) 494-0461.

**MANRRS Student Essay & Speech Contest**  
Undergraduate student members of MANRRS and nonmembers (with fee) are eligible to enter the essay and speech competitions. For more information contact the contest coordinator Dr. Jesse Thompson, Jr., Superintendent, MANRRS National Writing/Speaking Competitions, 104 Mumford Hall, 1301 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801/Telephone: (217) 333-3380. **(DEADLINE: March 1, 1992).**

**MANRRS Graduate Student Research Paper Competition.** To enter, contact Curtis White, Clemson University. Telephone: (803) 656-3300. **(DEADLINE: March 1, 1992).**

**MANRRS Graduate Students and Professionals:** To enter Poster Competition, contact Carlos Gonzalez, Texas A&M University. Telephone: (409) 845-8462. **(DEADLINE: March 1, 1992).**

## **AAEA Annual Meetings**

1992 - Baltimore, MD, August 8-12.

### **AAEA, NEA Sponsor Joint Session at ASSA Meeting**

Evelyn C. Spears organized and chaired an invited papers session at the Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) meeting, January 3-5, 1992. This session was sponsored jointly by the National Economics Association (NEA) and the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA). Two papers were presented:

"The African-American Farmer: Meeting the Production, Marketing, and Policy Challenges," Adell Brown, Jr., Southern University, Cooperative Extension Service; Magid A. Dagher, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Donald R. McDowell, North Carolina A&T State University. The objective of the paper was to identify the challenges faced by African-American farmers in order to prescribe solutions to the trend of declining numbers. The paper: (1) described the socioeconomic characteristics of African-American farmers, and (2) discussed the production, marketing, and policy challenges.

"African-Americans in Rural Society: Needed Public Policy Directions," Ralph D. Christy, Cornell University and Joyce E. Allen, University of Illinois. In this paper the authors (1) analyzed the consequences of market and policy failure on rural African-Americans; (2) examined their socioeconomic characteristics and critical economic problems; and (3) suggested the elements of a comprehensive policy to effectively resolve some of the identified problems.

The discussants were Vincent McDonald, Howard University, and Handy Williamson, Jr., University of Tennessee. Papers and discussions will be published in the August

1992 issue of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics.

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### **The Newsletter**

The Newsletter is published by the COSBAE. Doris Newton is Editor. Articles for this issue include contributions made by:

Joyce E. Allen, Edgar Lewis, Donald McDowell, Evelyn C. Spears, Handy Williamson, Jr.

Please send any articles of interest, suggestions, achievements, comments for the Newsletter to:

Doris Newton  
USDA-ERS  
1301 New York Avenue, NW  
Room 1120  
Washington, D.C. 20005-4788

**Deadline: materials for next issue --  
June 26, 1992**

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**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** Have you moved recently? Please contact Doris Newton, Editor, by phone or address listed above in order that you may continue to receive the NEWSLETTER.

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### **COSBAE: CALL NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Nominations Subcommittee is accepting nominations for: (1) 1992-93 Chairperson of the AAEA Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (cont'd p. 4, col. 1)

## NOMINATIONS (cont'd.)

(COSBAE) and (2) the Executive Committee -- responsible for overseeing the affairs and activities of COSBAE. You may nominate yourself or others for these positions. Send names of nominees, position that you are nominating them for, their address, and telephone number by ~~March 4, 1992~~ to:

*MAY 14, 1993*  
Adele Brown  
Joyce Allen, Chair,  
Nominations Subcommittee  
365 Mumford Hall P.O. Box 10010  
1301 W. Gregory Dr. Southern  
Urbana, IL 61801 *Barto 70813*  
Telephone: ~~(217) 244-2809~~  
FAX: ~~(217) 333-5538~~

For additional information contact Allen or any member of the Nominations Subcommittee listed below.

Adell Brown (Southern University, 504/771-2242); Donald McDowell (North Carolina A&T State University, 919/334-7054); and Lionel Williamson (University of Kentucky, 606/257-1637).

*Alfred Parks*  
Our COSBAE Chairman, Dr. Handy Williamson, Jr. needs to communicate names to AAEA in early March.

## CALL FOR PAPERS/SYMPOSIA

**AAEA: Call for Organized Symposia  
Extended Deadline: March 1, 1992**

For criteria and information contact:

Bruce Beattie  
Dept. of Agricultural Economics  
Economics Bldg. Room 208  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 85721

## 1993 ASSA MEETING: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS-INVITED PAPERS SESSION

AAEA President-elect James Houck is soliciting nominations for the Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) meeting in Anaheim, CA, Jan. 5-7, 1993.

Nominations should include proposed session title, paper titles, paper presenters and the discussants. A brief justification for the session and a paragraph describing the objectives of each paper should be included.

A typical session would have two papers plus discussion.

AAEA sessions may be jointly sponsored with other ASSA member associations. Proposals are especially welcome. Please send nominations by April 1, 1992, to James Houck, Dept. of Agriculture & Applied Econ, Univ. of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

## 1991 USDA CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS AWARDED

Grants awarded to 1890 institutions in 1991 included the following in agriculture:

### Research

North Carolina A&T State University-  
Applied Social and Economic Survey Research  
Center

Florida A&M University - Low Input  
Sustainable Agricultural Programs for Small  
Farmers in North Florida

Southern University - Dill as an Alternative  
Crop for Small-Scale Farms in the Southeast

(cont'd p. 5, col. 1)

## GRANTS (cont'd.)

University of Maryland-Eastern Shore -Effect of Retirement Planning on Older Rural Black Families

### Teaching

Alcorn State University - Enhancing Agricultural Economics with Two Bachelor of Science Options and A Master of Science Concentration

Tennessee State University - Human Capital Development in Agribusiness/Agricultural Statistics

Prairie View A&M University - The Enhancement of Agribusiness Education and Opportunity

North Carolina A&T State University - Applied Advanced International Trade Program.

## SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Resources for the Future (REF) has several summer internships available beginning June 1, 1993 and ending August 31, 1992. (Application deadline: March 15, 1992) The internship program at RFF seeks highly motivated candidates in their first or second year of graduate training who possess outstanding skill in microeconomics and quantitative methods and work well with minimum supervision. Students wishing to apply for the 1992 internship should send a letter of application describing their interest in the program and enclose a vita and recent transcript. A single letter of recommendation from a faculty member should be sent directly by the member to RFF. For applications or more information contact:

Ms. Suzanne Lewis at (202) 328-5077.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Research Assistant/International Food Policy Research Institute, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20038-1998. Direct inquiries to Mark Svendsen at (202) 862-8154.

Asst. Prof./Dept. of Ag. Econ., Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign/ Tenure track faculty position/comp. 9-month academic year appointment. Application deadline: July 1, 1992. For more info contact: David L. Chicoine, Head, UIUC Dept. of Ag. Econ., 1301 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801, (217)333-1810.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: THE FORUM ON BLACKS IN AGRICULTURE

The Forum, a USDA recognized employee organization based in Washington, D.C., annually awards a scholarship to a minority student attending a historically Black college or university. The student must be in an agriculture/home economics related field. Deadline for applications is May 15, 1992.

For more information contact: <sup>m</sup>Dean, College of Agriculture and/or the USDA Liaison at your institution or you may contact:

Edgar Lewis, Chairman  
FORUM Scholarship Committee USDA/ACS  
P. O. Box 96576  
Washington, D.C. 20090-6576  
(202) 720-3407

## GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

1992-93 American Economic Association (AEA)/Federal Reserve System (FRS) Minority Graduate Fellowships in Economics  
AEA/FRS offer graduate fellowships to (cont'd, p. 6, col. 1)

AWARD  
A/R  
- Fall Semester  
MAY 7, 1993  
1993-1994  
Scholarship  
YRAX

## **FELLOWSHIPS (cont'd.)**

minority Ph.D. students who have completed their comprehensive exams (and, if applicable, their field exams) and are about to begin their dissertation research. Awards will be based on academic performance.

**Deadline - Applications due March 2, 1992.**  
Awards to be announced in April, 1992.

Further information and application materials are available from:

Dr. Margaret C. Simms  
AEA Committee on the Status of Minority  
Groups in the Economics Profession, c/o The  
Joint Center for Political and Economic  
Studies  
1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.,  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Telephone: (202) 626-3500

## **DIRECTORY OF BLACK AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS**

The AAEA Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics is in the process of updating its *Directory of Black Agricultural Economists* (last published in 1989). If you are not currently listed in the *Directory* but would like to be included in the next edition, please complete the form enclosed in this newsletter. If you are listed in the *directory* and your entry needs to be updated (i.e., new address, title, telephone number, area of specialty, type of work) you need to complete the enclosed form also, to ensure that the information published is correct. The Committee encourages you to make copies of the form and distribute them to black agricultural economists who do not receive the NEWSLETTER.

## **NOTABLES**

**William Amponsah** was appointed Assistant Professor, Dept. of Agricultural Economics, North Carolina A&T State University. His specialization is International Trade and Marketing. He received the Ph.D in Ag. Econ. from Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio.

**Ralph D. Christy** (Dept. of Agricultural Economics-Cornell University) was elected to the Board of Directors, American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) for a 3 year term beginning in Sept. 1991.

**Serial Kennerson** (National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS), U.S. Department of Agriculture) is currently serving as the USDA Liaison Officer to the College of Agriculture and Home Economics, Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Dr. Arthur T. King** (Department of Economics, ~~Baylor University~~) was elected President of the National Economic Association.

**Rita McMillan**, USDA-ERS, has completed requirements for the M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of California-Davis. Rita has accepted an Agricultural Economist position with the Resource Technology Division of the Economic Research Service, USDA.

**Kevin Smith** (Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture) has been assigned to Bangkok, Thailand. He is currently serving as the assistant agricultural attache.

**Stacey and Tracey Smith** received bachelor degrees in agricultural economics from Southern University in December. Both were awarded (cont'd. p. 7, col. 1)

**NOTABLES (cont'd.)**

assistantships from the Department of Economics, University of Illinois and enrolled in the M.S. program in January.

**Evelyn C. Spears**, formerly Director of Planning and Evaluation with the Michigan Dept. of Agriculture, is now managing **Change Options Associates**, a consulting firm in East Lansing, MI. Dr. Spears has a diverse background with training in engineering, animal science, animal nutrition, agricultural economics and VIDEO PRODUCTION. She is experienced in international work with two long-term assignments (Nigeria and Swaziland) and short-term consultancies for the World Bank and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Evelyn plans to focus on training videos and has used video in some rather unique ways to teach economics at Central Michigan Univ.

**Alton Thompson**, North Carolina A&T State University, Rural Sociology has returned from leave with the Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work at the N.C. State University, Raleigh.

**Mario W. Washington**, 1991 Southern University graduate, was awarded a graduate research assistantship from the Department of Animal Science at Cornell University and enrolled in the M.S. program in January.

**Handy Williamson, Jr.** was selected Chair of the Department Heads Organization, Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA). He also lead a workshop on " Diversity in Agriculture" at the MANRRS conference, Gainesville, FL, last April.

**Kandeh Yumkella** received a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and is now an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University.

**NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY'S GRADUATE STUDENT POSITIONS TAKEN:**

**Rhonda Davis**, USDA/Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, Raleigh, NC.

**Monica Gripper**, McMaster Carr, Atlanta, GA.

**Yolanda White**, USDA/Soil Conservation Service, Washington, DC.

**Clemente Williams**, Eli Lilly and Company, Minneapolis, MN.

**URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!**

The Committee on Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics is just a pen stroke away from enacting a set of Working Rules which would formalize the structure and scope of COSBAE. This is an important step and your input and views are needed.

I am requesting that each COSBAE colleague (newsletter recipient) review the attached document entitled, "COSBAE Working Rules." After the review, mail your written comments and suggestions to me by **April 10, 1992**. A non reply will be viewed as concurrence in ratification of the document. Send comments on Working Rules to:

**Handy Williamson, Jr.**  
Professor and Head  
Dept. Agric. Econ. & Rur. Soc.  
University of Tennessee  
P.O. Box 1071  
Knoxville, TN 37901-1071

INFORMATION FOR THE DIRECTORY OF BLACK AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_  
Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Office Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work Activities/Responsibilities in Current Position (Check as many as applicable):

Research \_\_\_\_\_ Staff work \_\_\_\_\_  
Teaching \_\_\_\_\_ Extension \_\_\_\_\_  
Administration \_\_\_\_\_ Consulting \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of research interest:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Educational Background (list highest degree first):

Degree Received	Year Received	University	Major	Specialties (see codes on p. 2)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Are you currently enrolled in school?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Name of university \_\_\_\_\_  
Major \_\_\_\_\_  
Degree and date expected \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM BY MAY 1, 1992 AND MAIL TO:

DONALD R. MCDOWELL  
P.O. BOX 21384  
GREENSBORO, NC 27420



## SUBJECT MATTER SPECIALIZATION CODES

- |                               |                                |                                  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8810 Farm Mgmt/Prod. Econ     | 8860 Agricultural Finance      | 8900 Consumer Econ               |
| 8811 Farm Production Econ     | 8861 Farm Financial Mgmt       | 8901 Consumer Demand             |
| 8812 Farm Mgmt.               | 8862 Farm Lending/Insttit      | 8902 Consumer Educ               |
| 8813 Farm Accts/Recordkeep    | 8863 Financial Markets         | 8903 Consumer Regul/Prot         |
| 8814 Farm Firm Growth         | 8864 Macro-Econ Finance        | 8904 Consumer Finance            |
| 8820 Agricultural Marketing   | 8865 Farm Real Est/Val/Pric    | 8910 General Econ                |
| 8821 Firm/Plant/Market Effic. | 8866 Risk Mgmt                 | 8911 Micro-Econ Theory           |
| 8822 Food Proc/Distrib        | 8867 Insurance                 | 8912 Macro-Econ Theory           |
| 8823 Transport Loc/Storage    | 8868 Taxation8                 | 8913 Int'l Economics             |
| 8824 Pint Loc/Interreg Trad   | 8870 Natural Res/Env Econ      | 8914 Labor Economics             |
| 8825 Market Regulation        | 8871 Water Resources           | 8915 Industrial Economics        |
| 8826 Mkt Sys/Struc/Perform    | 8872 Forestry                  | 8916 Institutional Econ          |
| 8827 Futures Markets          | 8873 Fisheries                 | 8917 Welfare Economics           |
| 8828 Corp Organiz/Policy      | 8874 Recreation                | 8918 Intl Trade Theory           |
| 8829 Pricing Systems          | 8875 Land                      | 8919 Reg Econ/Local Theory       |
| 8830 Agbusiness Mgmt          | 8876 Env/Chem-An Wast Mgt      | 8920 Decision Theory             |
| 8831 Business Administration  | 8877 Mineral Resources         | 8930 Rerch Meth/Econmetric/Stats |
| 8832 Managerial Economics     | 8878 Energy                    | 8931 Econometric Meth            |
| 8833 Finance/Aocgt            | 8880 Community Res Econ        | 8932 Statistical Meth            |
| 8834 Marketing/Advertising    | 8881 Commu Facil-Wtr/Sewr/Wth  | 8933 Mathematical Meth           |
| 8835 Dec Anlys/Risk Mgmt      | 8882 Employment                | 8934 Syst Anlys/Simulation       |
| 8836 Forecasting/Planning     | 8883 Housing                   | 8935 Data Collection             |
| 8840 Ag Price/Inc/Pol Anlys   | 8884 Regional Econ             | 8936 Rerch Meth/Philosophy       |
| 8841 Commo Sup/Dem Anly       | 8885 Land Use Zoning/Planning  | 8940 Other Specialties           |
| 8842 Agr Situation/Outlook    | 8886 State/Loc Govt Finance    | 8941 Agr Animal Sci              |
| 8843 Agr Income/Expenses      | 8887 Industrialization         | 8942 Agr Plant Services          |
| 8844 Agr Policy Analysis      | 8888 Economic Planning         | 8943 Sociology                   |
| 8845 Agr Sect Perform Meas    | 8890 Human Resource Economics  | 8944 Political Sci               |
| 8846 Farm Structure           | 8891 Education                 | 8945 Law                         |
| 8850 Intl Agr Trade/Devl      | 8892 Health Services           | 8946 Engineering                 |
| 8851 Trade Policy             | 8893 Poverty                   | 8947 History                     |
| 8852 Food Assist Programs     | 8894 Welfare Program/Food Prog | 8948 Research Mgmt               |
| 8853 Technical Assistance     | 8895 Employee Training/Dev     | 8949 Public Admin                |
| 8854 Commo Analysis/Proj      | 8896 Demography                | 8950 Other                       |
| 8855 Country/Regional Anly    |                                |                                  |
| 8856 Economic Growth/Dev      |                                |                                  |
| 8857 Agr Sector Analysis      |                                |                                  |

COMMITTEE ON STATUS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF BLACKS  
IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
(COSBAE)  
WORKING RULES

**Working Rule 1: Purpose, Membership, Affiliation, and Meetings**

- 1.1 Purpose--The purpose of COSBAE is to promote the welfare of black agricultural economists by representing their interests within the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) and by engaging in activities which will encourage the professional advancement of black agricultural economists.
- 1.2 Membership--Membership is extended to all members of the AAEA who wish to promote this purpose. Membership information may be obtained from the AAEA Business Office or the COSBAE Membership Chairperson.
- 1.3 Affiliation--The Board of COSBAE is a Special Committee of the AAEA.
- 1.4 Meetings--Meetings of the membership are held at AAEA and SAAS annual meetings.

**Working Rule 2: Board Members, Powers and Duties of the Board, Nominations and Elections to the Board.**

- 2.1 Board Members--The Board manages the affairs and activities of COSBAE. The Board is ~~officially appointed by the President of the AAEA.~~ The Board consists of the following members: the current chairperson, the past chairperson, the vice-chairperson, four members-at-large elected from the membership, and a representative of the AAEA Board. Board members must be members of COSBAE.
- 2.2 Powers and Duties of the Board--The chairperson of the Board leads the management of COSBAE and brings issues to the Board for discussion. The chairperson is the official contact and spokesperson of COSBAE to the AAEA Board and to the membership at large. The chairperson has the power to define and appoint subcommittee members as deemed necessary, and to add and dissolve standing subcommittees. Board members advise and assist the chairperson. The Board decides policy issues.
- 2.3 General Procedures of Operation of the Board--General procedures of operation of the Board are consistent with those outlined in the AAEA's Bylaws and Constitution. At any Board meeting, a majority of Board members constitutes a quorum. When a quorum is present, the act of a majority of Board members constitutes an act of the Board. Actions may be decided by telephone when a board meeting is not feasible, if there is an agreement of a majority of the Board.
- 2.4 Nominations and Elections to the Board.
  - 2.4.1 Nominations to the Board--The elections subcommittee solicits names of potential nominees for the vice-chairperson and at-large positions. Names of potential nominees are to be solicited from the membership in the newsletter preceding the ballot (typically in the winter) or by other means if necessary. A minimum of two nominees per position is required.
  - 2.4.2 Elections to the Board--Board members are elected by mail ballot of the membership. The ballot is contained in a spring newsletter. The vice-

chairperson is elected every year and becomes chairperson at the AAEA annual meetings during the following year. After a one-year term, the chairperson serves as past-chair for one year. If the chair becomes vacant during the course of the year, the vice-chairperson succeeds to that office. The four at-large members serve two-year terms that began at the AAEA annual meetings. Two at-large members are elected each year so that terms are staggered.

### Working Rule 3: Permanent and Standing Subcommittees

#### 3.1 Permanent Subcommittees

The permanent subcommittees and their duties are:

Elections--The Elections Subcommittee compiles the list of nominees for the Board; tabulates the ballot; notifies the board, the candidates, and the newsletter editor(s) of the election outcome; and addresses election procedures.

Finance--The Finance Subcommittee proposes the budget, prepares financial statements, and addresses fundraising issues.

Membership--The Membership Subcommittee provides membership services, keeps a roster of members, and addresses the recruitment of new members.

Newsletter--The chairperson (or chairpersons) of the Newsletter Subcommittee is (are) the editor(s) of the newsletter. Other subcommittee members provide assistance in the planning and production of the newsletter.

#### 3.2 Standing Subcommittees

Standing subcommittees may be at any time added or dissolved by the chairperson. The standing subcommittees and their duties are:

Arrangements--The Arrangements Subcommittee arranges meetings, luncheons, and social gatherings at the AAEA annual meetings.

Employment--The Employment Subcommittee works to improve employment opportunities for black agricultural economists by identifying such opportunities and disseminating information (includes notifying the newsletter editor(s) of any immediate openings).

Graduate Students--The Graduate Students Subcommittee identifies and addresses the particular needs of graduate student members and strives to increase the involvement of graduate students in the AAEA.

Planning--The Planning Subcommittee helps identify and evaluate emerging issues relevant to the activities and purposes of COSBAE.

Professional Activities--The Professional Activities Subcommittee plans, encourages, and coordinates professional activities at the AAEA annual meetings. The subcommittee provides statistical information as needed on the status of black in the profession.

Research--The Research Subcommittee promotes the role of black in the research community by organizing sessions at the AAEA annual meetings, and by carrying out other activities relevant to the purpose of the subcommittee.