

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

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 6, No. 1

Winter/Spring 1992

1

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from Knoxville!
By the time the majority of our membership receives this Newsletter, the Winter Meeting of the Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE) will be behind us. We will have had a successful meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, during which our local member-host (Lionel Williamson) will have treated the committee and supporters to a special brand of Kentucky hospitality. Also we will have successfully forged an agenda for our Summer meeting to be held during the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) meeting in Baltimore, MD. I will enthusiastically "pass the gavel" to our incoming chairperson at that time. Of course, I would not pass the gavel without having delivered a "State of COSBAE" vignette, during which my last attempt at being the committee almoner will be made.

These are truly exciting times in the "life" of COSBAE. All Working Groups assigned a specific task some 16 months ago, continue to deliver quality results. Several of our members have been granted promotions and/or recognition. Others have successfully relocated to accept greater opportunity, responsibility, and reward. Within the AAEA and the Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA), our members are being recognized, challenged and constructively involved.

(cont'd p. 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-Treasurer, University of Michigan, School of Business Administration, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1234.

MESSAGE...(cont'd)

One of our recent committee accomplishments is the publication of a book entitled, A Century of Service: The 1890 Land Grant Colleges and Universities. For more details on this and other activities, please attend your COSBAE meetings!

Looking ahead, it is imperative that we continue to define and carry out roles as COSBAE members, within the structures of the 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 on (317) 494-0461.

MANRRS Student Essay & Speech Contest. (DEADLINE: March 1, 1992)
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 Drive, Urbana, IL. 61801/ Telephone: (217) 333-3380.

MANRRS:

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

Graduate Student 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

The Newsletter

The Newsletter is published by the Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics. Doris Newton is Editor. Articles for this issue include contributions made by:

Joyce E. Allen Edgar Lewis
Donald McDowell Evelyn C. Spears

Please send any articles, announcements, achievements, or comments for the Newsletter to:

Doris Newton
USDA-ERS
1301 New York Avenue, NW
Room 1128
Washington, D.C. 20005-4788
(202) 219-0866

Deadline: materials for next issue - June 26, 1992

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

**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.

**COSBAE: CALL FOR 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 (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 to:

Joyce Allen, Chair,
Nominations Subcommittee
305 Mumford Hall
1301 W. Gregory Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801
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).

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

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CALL... (cont'd.)

**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 agricultural economics:

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

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

EMPLOYMENT (cont'd.)

D.C. 20038-1998. Direct inquiries to Mark Svendsen at (202) 862-8154.

Asst. Prof./Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign/ Tenure track faculty position, competitive 9-month academic year appointment. Application deadline: July 1, 1992. For more information 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 an undergraduate majoring in an agricultural/home economics related field. Deadline for applications is May 15, 1992.

For more information contact: 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 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 Agricultural Economics 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, has completed requirements for the M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of California-Davis. Rita is an agricultural economist 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

assistantships from the Department of Agricultural 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.

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

Handy Williamson, Jr. was selected Chair of the Department Heads Organization, Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA). He also led 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.

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)
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Are you currently enrolled in school?

Yes _____ If so, Name of university _____

Major _____

Degree and date expected _____

No _____

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/Productn Econ**
 8811 Farm Production Econ
 8812 Farm Mgmt
 8813 Farm Accts/Recordkeeping
 8814 Farm Firm Growth
- 8820 Agricultural Marketing**
 8821 Firm/Plant/Market Effic
 8822 Food Prod/Distrib
 8823 Transport Loc/Storage
 8824 Plant Loc/Interregion Trad
 8825 Market Regulation
 8826 Market Sys/Struct/Perform
 8827 Futures Markets
 8828 Cooperat Organiz/Policy
 8829 Pricing Systems
- 8830 Agribusiness Management**
 8831 Business Administration
 8832 Managerial Economics
 8833 Finance/Accounting
 8834 Marketing/Advertising
 8835 Decision Anlys/Risk Mgmt
 8836 Forecasting/Planning
- 8840 Ag Price/Income/Policy Analysis**
 8841 Commodity Supply/Demand Anlys
 8842 Agr Situation/Outlook
 8843 Agr Income/Expenses
 8844 Agr Policy Analysis
 8845 Agr Sector Performance Meas
 8846 Farm Structure
- 8850 Intl Agr Trade/Development**
 8851 Trade Policy
 8852 Food Assist Programs
 8853 Technical Assistance
 8854 Commodity Anlys/Proj
 8855 Country/Regional Analysis
 8856 Economic Growth/Dev
 8857 Agr Sector Analysis
- 8860 Agricultural Finance**
 8861 Farm Financial Mgmt
 8862 Farm Lending/Instit
 8863 Financial Markets
 8864 Macro-Economic Finance
 8865 Farm Real Estate/Val/Prices
 8866 Risk Mgmt
 8867 Insurance
 8868 Taxation
- 8870 Natural Res/Environment Econ**
 8871 Water Resources
 8872 Forestry
 8873 Fisheries
 8874 Recreation
 8875 Land
 8876 Environ/Chem-Anml Waste Mgmt
 8877 Mineral Resources
 8878 Energy
- 8880 Community Resource Economics**
 8881 Commun Facility-Wtr/Sewr/Mith
 8882 Employment
 8883 Housing
 8884 Regional Econ
 8885 Land Use Zoning/Planning
 8886 State/Loc Govt Finance
 8887 Industrialization
 8888 Economic Planning
- 8890 Human Resource Economics**
 8891 Education
 8892 Health Services
 8893 Poverty
 8894 Welfare Program/Food Prog
 8895 Employee Trng/Dev
 8896 Demography
- 8900 Consumer Economics**
 8901 Consumer Demand
 8902 Consumer Education
 8903 Consumer Regul/Protection
 8904 Consumer Finance
- 8910 General Economics**
 8911 Micro-Economic Theory
 8912 Macro-Economic Theory
 8913 International Economics
 8914 Labor Economics
 8915 Industrial Economics
 8916 Institutional Economics
 8917 Welfare Economics
 8918 Intl Trade Theory
 8919 Regional Econ/Local Theory
 8920 Decision Theory
- 8930 Rsrch Meth/Econometrics/Stats**
 8931 Econometrics Meth
 8932 Statistical Meth
 8933 Mathematical Meth
 8934 Syst Analysis/Simulation
 8935 Data Collection
 8936 Rsrch Meth/Philosophy
- 8940 Other Specialties**
 8941 Agr Animal Sciences
 8942 Agr Plant Services
 8943 Sociology
 8944 Political Science
 8945 Law
 8946 Engineering
 8947 History
 8948 Research Mgmt
 8949 Public Administration
- 8950 Other**