

July 2007

American Agricultural Economics Association

Extension Section Newsletter

<http://www.aaea.org/sections/extension/>

2007 AAEA Annual Meeting

Members of the AAEA Extension Section are looking forward to another successful annual meeting, to be held in Portland, Oregon, July 28-31. Once again we will sponsor an **Agricultural Study Tour** on Saturday (see related article). On Sunday at 2:30 pm the annual **Section Business Meeting** will be held, followed by the **Extension Section Reception**. On Tuesday the **Extension Luncheon** will feature Bob Stacey, Executive Director of 1,000 Friend of Oregon, as well as several Section awards.

The Extension Section will sponsor seven **Organized Symposia** on Monday and Tuesday. Symposia titles are:

- Agricultural Policy Outlook
- Crops Outlook
- Livestock Outlook
- Measuring the Impact of Extension Economics Programming
- Outreach Efforts Focused on sustaining Small and Mid-sized Farms and Local food Systems (joint with COSBAE)
- Changing Dynamics in cooperative Extension and the role of Extension Economists: Change or Changed Agents?
- Extension Section Graduate Student Competition winners' presentations

In addition, the Extension Section will collaborate with the Economics, Statistics and Information Resources Committee (ISIRC) to present four 90-minute workshops to help agricultural economists improve their skills with computer analysis packages and data bases. Computers and Internet access will be supported by a grant from the AAEA Foundation.

Check the AAEA conference program for specific times and locations.

2007 Extension Section Pre-Conference Study Tour of Oregon Ag



Only a few seats remain for this year's agricultural study tour. We will visit commercial farms and nurseries in the Willamette Valley, about an hour south of Portland, tour a farmers' market, and investigate field crops, hazelnut orchards, a commercial nursery, a vineyard and winery, and Stahlbush Island Farms (an innovative commercial operation focusing on sustainable agriculture with

organic crops). At one stop we will hear about land use issues between commercial farming and sand and gravel mining in the area. The bus leaves on Saturday, July 28, at 7:30 am from the Oregon Convention Center. Lunch and breaks will be provided.

2007 Extension Reception

Come join the fun at the annual Extension Section Reception, Sunday, July 29, beginning at 4:30. Our generous sponsors are the Farmdoc website (University of Illinois) and the Center for Farm Financial Management (University of Minnesota). Who says economists don't know how to socialize!



2007 Extension Luncheon

Our luncheon this year will feature **Bob Stacey, Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Oregon**, a 30-year old public interest group that promotes rational land use planning in Oregon. Their goals are to build livable urban and rural communities, protect family farms and forests, and conserve natural and scenic areas. He will compare the results of different land use policy approaches in Washington County, Oregon, and Clark County, Washington, two counties adjacent to the Portland metropolitan area. The luncheon will take place at noon on Tuesday, July 31.

AAEA Extension Graduate Student Award

A new award will be presented this year to several graduate students who develop a proposed extension/outreach program based on their thesis or dissertation research. Eleven entries were received. Eight of these were selected to present their proposals at the Portland meeting, from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm on Sunday, July 29. From these, three winners will be selected and recognized at the Extension luncheon. In addition, the winners will present their proposals at an organized symposium.

AAEA Extension Section Website Award

Eleven nominations were received for the outstanding Extension website that delivers an electronic newsletter. Come to the Extension luncheon in Portland to see who the winner is!

AAEA Executive Board Nominees

Congratulations to the following new Extension Section officers and Executive Committee members. They will take office on July 29.

President-elect	Doug Jose , University of Nebraska
At-large Director	David A. Miller , Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
1890s Institutions Director	Mary Mafuyai-Ekanem , North Carolina A&T Univ.
Northeast Region Director	Lori Lynch , University of Maryland

Many thanks to our outgoing officers and directors for all their time and dedication over the past three years. The Extension Section has benefited tremendously from their talents and efforts.

Northeast Region Director	Wes Musser , University of Maryland
1890s Institutions Director	Duncan Chembezi , Alabama A & M University
At-large Director	Sam Funk , Kansas State University

In addition, we are pleased to announce that **Damona Doye**, former President of the Extension Section, has been elected to the AAEA Executive Board.

Also on the ballot were several proposed changes to the Extension Section by-laws. These changes were discussed and recommended at the annual Section business meeting at Long Beach, and were approved by a wide margin.

AAEA Extension Section Website

Visit the AAEA Extension Section website at: <http://www.aaea.org/sections/extension/> to see minutes of Executive Committee teleconferences, the current membership list, past newsletters and annual reports, details on the Ag Study Tour, current Section by-laws, and your current leadership team.

Many thanks to Bob Craven and his associates at the Center for Farm Financial Management for managing our website.



Prepared by William Edwards, AAEA Extension Section President.