

FAMPS Business Meeting
Caribe Royale Hotel, Orlando
July 28, 2008

Report of the Section Chair

1. Membership and Financial Status

Section membership as of June 30: 121

86 academic, 15 USDA, 20 other (private or non-USDA gov)

Some fluctuations, but no strong trend

Balance on account, as of June 30: \$11,466.39.

Down from \$17,380.58 on December 31, 2006.

Support for two policy conferences since then.

2. Annual Policy Conference

March 10, 2008, at ERS in Washington

Theme: Information, Policy, and the Food System

Financial Support from ERS and AMS

Outstanding ERS facilities support

Participation:

Good papers/presentations, not many submissions

45 registrants, good interaction, could have been better

Joint sponsorship yielded free-rider problems

3. Election of Officers

a. Chair-elect: Christiane Schroeter

b. Treasurer: Chuck Nicholson

4. Looking Ahead

Rising travel expenses

Steady membership but limited conference participation

Declining balance

Rookie chairs

Proposal: appoint committee to review section activities and membership,

report to Joe with proposals for conference organization, website,

newsletter, etc.

Policy Conference Sessions

8:30-10:15 Information, Labeling, and Consumer Choice

Moderator: Elise Golan, Economic Research Service

“Public Policy and Endogenous Beliefs: The Case of Genetically Modified Food,” by Jayson Lusk (Oklahoma State University).

“What is it About Organic Milk? An Experimental Analysis” by John Bernard and Daria Bernard (University of Delaware).

“The Demand for Nutrition Information,” by Joshua Berning, Hayley Chouinard, and Jill McCluskey (Washington State University).

10:35-11:45 Two Evaluations of Federal Policies

Moderator: James MacDonald, Economic Research Service

“Outlook vs. Futures: Three Decades of Evidence in Hog and Cattle Markets,.” by Evelyn Colino and Scott Irwin (University of Illinois).

“Analysis of Pathogen Control Performance in U.S. Young Chicken Slaughter and Pork Slaughter Establishments,” by Mary Muth, Mansour Fahimi, and Shawn Karns (RTI).

1:00-2:30 Mandatory Livestock Price Reporting

Moderator: Bill Hahn, Economic Research Service

“The Market Effects of Mandatory Livestock Price Reporting,” by Steve Koontz (Colorado State) and Clem Ward (Oklahoma State).

“How Informa Uses Mandatory Livestock Price Reporting Data,” Rob Murphy (Informa).

“New Developments in Price Reporting,” by Warren Preston (USDA/AMS).

2:50-4:00 National Animal Identification Systems

Moderator: Janet Perry, Economic Research service

“Costs and Benefits of a National Animal Identification System,” by Ted Schroeder (Kansas State).

“The Experience with Cattle Identification Systems in Michigan,” by Kevin Kirk (Michigan Department of Agriculture).