March 19, 2012

Dear Chapter Presidents and Advisors,

I hope each and every one of you enjoyed your spring break. As we return from our adventures, it is time to prepare for the 2012 SS-AAEA Academic Bowl and Undergraduate Paper competitions, and buff up applications for the Outstanding Chapter and Creative Chapter competitions.

We are excited to announce a more concise schedule of events that will allow chapters either the opportunity to save funding on lodging during their journey to the meetings and/or allow students an extra day for exploration of Seattle. Also, the Student Section will be waiving the Academic Bowl registration fee of $75.00 for this year.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

**Sunday, August 12, 2012**
- 3:00-5:30P - Undergraduate Paper Competition
- 6:00-7:00P - Academic Bowl Orientation and Student Mixer

**Monday, August 13, 2012**
- 8:00-4:00P - Academic Bowl
- 6:00-6:30P - Academic Bowl Finals (AAEA Awards ceremony to follow from 6:30-7:30pm)
- 8:00-9:00P - SS-AAEA Business Meeting

**SS-AAEA SOCIAL EVENT, BUSINESS MEETING, AND OFFICER ELECTIONS**

**Social Event**
- The SS-AAEA Social will be held at 6:00 on Sunday, August 12, 2012.
- The purpose of the mixer is to allow students to meet each other prior to the business meeting on Monday and acquire information about officer elections. We expect to gain more involvement in the officer elections if the students are aware of the available positions and their responsibilities. The social is also an ideal venue for exchanging ideas about future events.

**Business Meeting**
- The business meeting will be held immediately following the AAEA awards ceremony at 8:00 on Monday, August 13, 2012.
- Officer elections will be held at the business meeting. Votes for candidates will be submitted by secret ballot during the business meeting. However, we do want students to have knowledge of who is running and for what positions prior to the meeting. The purpose of this is to allow others to join the race if they so choose. We anticipate that this will eliminate uncontested races or alleviate crowded ones.
- Candidates will be required to submit a picture of themselves and information regarding their credentials. These slides will be displayed during the candidates’ speeches prior to voting. Please contact Jake Riley regarding the social event, business meeting or officer elections.
IMPORTANT DATES - 2012

✓ May 31: Paper Competition Statement of Intent Form due.
✓ June 30: Submissions for Paper Competition due.
✓ June 30: Submission forms for Creative Chapter Award due.
✓ June 30: Submission forms for Outstanding Chapter Award due.
✓ June 30: Academic Bowl Registration due.
✓ Don’t forget to pay your Chapter dues before the AAEA Meeting!
✓ Aug 12: Paper competitions and Presentations
✓ Aug 12: Academic Bowl Orientation & Mixer
✓ Aug 13: Academic Bowl
✓ Aug 13: Academic Bowl Finals
✓ Aug 13: AAEA Awards Ceremony
✓ Aug 13: SS-AAEA Business Meeting

For more information about the SS-AAEA, check out the website (http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/)

ACADEMIC BOWL

- An orientation session will be held at 6:00 PM on Sunday, August 12, 2012, where the software, rules, and tournament schedule will be discussed.
- The first rounds will begin at 8:00 AM on the following day (Monday) and will continue through 4:00 PM that afternoon. The final round to decide the winning team will be held that evening at 6:00 PM prior to the AAEA Awards Ceremony.
- All active chapters of the SS-AAEA may download one copy of the academic bowl software, and additional copies may be purchased for a small fee. All information about acquiring the new software is posted on the SS-AAEA website.

Please contact Sierra Howry for questions about Academic Bowl Tournament and Corey Miller for questions about the Academic Bowl Software.

PAPER COMPETITION AND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

- The paper competition will be held Sunday August 12, 2012. The deadline to submit a Statement of Intent form is May 31, and complete papers must be submitted by June 30.
- The AAEA has often lamented that many students submit quality papers to the SS-AAEA paper competition, yet if they do not place their papers are not made available to the public and the student receives no recognition. To alleviate this, the SS-AAEA will place submitted, quality papers into the SS-AAEA Journal of Agricultural Economics which will be published online. Students who wish to be recognized for their papers but cannot attend the meetings are welcome to submit their papers directly to the journal.

Please contact Mike Gunderson.

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AND CREATIVE CHAPTER COMPETITIONS

- Both the Outstanding and Creative Chapter Award applications are due June 30.
- Details on submitting can be found at the SS-AAEA website, and winners will be expected to give a brief presentation during the business meeting regarding the highlights of their applications.

For Creative Chapter Award questions contact Steve Vickner, and for Outstanding Chapter Award questions see Corey Miller.

More information about the meetings schedule can be found posted on the AAEA Annual Meeting webpage (http://www.aaea.org/2012am).

The SS-AAEA is always looking for next year’s faculty advisor. Please nominate your favorite professor by contacting Jake Riley. Remember, the Academic Bowl competition requires the help of the faculty members to act as judges, moderators, and software operators. Tell your advisor to contact Sierra Howry and volunteer today!

Gig ’Em,