Greetings from the Department Head

Dear Friends:

You are cordially invited to attend the 13th annual Conner Connects Banquet on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 7:00 pm. The banquet will be held at the Garden Club Terrace Room at the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia in Athens. In addition to enjoying a delicious meal, we will be recognizing and presenting awards to a number of outstanding students, both undergraduate and graduate, as well as faculty and staff members. Please join us and take advantage of this opportunity to meet our students and visit with faculty, staff, and other departmental alumni. If you would like to attend this event, please contact Mrs. Audrey Cox (ah1@uga.edu) or use the registration form included in the newsletter.

Another important spring event is the department’s upcoming annual Rod Ziemer Lecture. Our Graduate Student Association (GSA) will be hosting this event at 11:00 am on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 in 104 Conner Hall. We are honored to have Dr. Keith Coble, who is the W.L. Giles Distinguished Professor at the Department of Agricultural Economics of Mississippi State University as this year’s guest speaker. He will deliver the lecture entitled, “Implications of the 2014 Farm Bill and the Future of Farm Policy in the U.S.”

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our fall 2013 graduates. Thirty-three undergraduate students and 3 graduate students received their degrees last fall. I am pleased to report that we currently have an enrollment of 271 undergraduates and 66 graduate students (26 PhD, 33 MS, and 7 MAB). More importantly, from my exit interviews with them, it is apparent that most are not having much difficulty finding gainful employ at very competitive salaries in their chosen career paths!

The activities and accomplishments of our QuizBowl Team are also highlighted in the newsletter along with those of other students, faculty members, and alumni. Please be sure to read our Graduate Student Spotlight featuring Will Thompson, a second-year M.S. student and our Alumni Spotlight featuring Mr. Bob Parker, President and CEO of the National Peanut Board.

A great accomplishment that I am very pleased to report is that Dr. Michael Wetzstein received the USDA National Teaching Award for Food and Agriculture Science. This award is given to a single faculty member selected from the agricultural science colleges across the country. I would also like to congratulate our J.W. Fanning Professional Award recipients – Dr. John C. McKissick is the winner of the 2013 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award and Jim Faircloth is the winner of the 2013 J. W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award.

I hope you enjoy reading about the activities and accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni as much as I enjoy relating them to you. Please consider sharing updates about changes in your life with us so that we can write about them in the newsletter. It is always a pleasure to hear from our alumni and friends.

Sincerely,
Octavio Ramirez
Professor and Department Head
Conner Connects

Conner Connects Banquet-2014

The members of the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club and the AAEC Graduate Student Association cordially invite you to join us for our 13th annual Conner Connects Banquet.

Thursday, April 17, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
Garden Club Terrace Room at the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia, Athens, GA

Cost is $10 for current students and $15 for non-students. Please RSVP by April 10. If you have questions regarding the banquet, please call 706-542-2481 or email ah1@uga.edu

CONNER CONNECTS REGISTRATION

(Due April 10)
Student Tickets ($10 each) $_______
Non-student Tickets ($15 each) $_______
Donation to help defray department’s contribution for student tickets $_______

Guests’ Names:__________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________

Please make checks payable to the UGA Foundation.
Mail to: Conner Connects Registration, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509
Email: ah1@uga.edu  Call: 706-542-2481
Student News

Fall Graduates

*Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the fall of 2013!*

**Undergraduate Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Honors</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Bryan Arnett</td>
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<td>BSA</td>
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<td>Brandon Russell Arnold</td>
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<td>William Bradley Atkinson</td>
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<td>Rebekah Leigh Beasley</td>
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<td>Robert Charles Bell</td>
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<td>Dana Ruth Berger</td>
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<td>Gerald Macklin Bienn</td>
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<td>Craig Phillip Bland</td>
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<td>Timothy Brock Boleman</td>
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<td>Daniel Nicklaus Brancum</td>
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<td>Davis Michael Bruorton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zeke Mackenzie Bryant</td>
<td>(Magna Cum Laude)</td>
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<td>Colby Ashton Cantrell</td>
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<td>Matthew Lynn Dumbleton</td>
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<td>Steven Fini</td>
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<td>Grant Allen Greene</td>
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<td>Lauren Noelle Guffey</td>
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<td>Clinton Odell Hall, Jr.</td>
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<td>Megan Leigh Hooper</td>
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<td>Cleveland Norton Jackson</td>
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<td>Harrison Ross Laird</td>
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<td>Callan Brooke Littrell</td>
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<td>William Harbert Martin, III</td>
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<td>James Cooper Morgan</td>
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<td>Shannon Audrey Parrish</td>
<td>(Cum Laude)</td>
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<td>Michael Douglas Paul, Jr.</td>
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<td>Morgan Barbara Strickland</td>
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<td>Carrie Aileen Tucker</td>
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<td>Michael Joseph Werrick</td>
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<td>Britt Charles Willingham, Jr.</td>
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Graduate Students

James Wyatt Cothran  
MS  
AAE  
Grace Rocio Melo  
MS  
AAE  
Xiaosi Yang  
MS  
AAE

UGA Quiz Bowl Students Attend the Southern Agricultural Economics Association Meetings in Dallas, Texas February 1-4, 2014

UGA’s Agricultural and Applied Economics Quiz Bowl students participated in the academic bowl competition at the annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) in Dallas, Texas, February 1-4, 2014.

Five students in Agricultural and Applied Economics, Jonathan Balchus, Jaclyn Beckley, Patrick Conner, Alan Gluck, and Savannah Koeting, competed in the SAEA’s Academic Quiz Bowl in Dallas, Texas. The Quiz Bowl format mixes students from other association universities into teams of four who compete against each other in a Jeopardy format. Moderators read from a test bank of questions on micro and macro-economic theory, agribusiness/finance, quantitative methods, resource policy, management, and potpourri. Several team members made it through to the tenth round, which was a very good showing against tough competition.

The team attended the SAEA Reception/Super Bowl party at the Eddie Dean’s Ranch in Dallas and a student reception at the Press Box Grill.
Alan Gluck, second from left, and his teammates, the Waves, at the Academic Quiz Bowl.

Jonathan Balchus, far right, and his teammates, the Chippewas, at the Academic Quiz Bowl.

Jacyln Beckley and Alan Gluck check scores at the Academic Quiz Bowl.

UGA students, Jonathan Balchus, Jaclyn Beckley, Savannah Koetting, Alan Gluck, and Patrick Conner, SAEA Reception/Super Bowl party at the Eddie Dean’s Ranch in Dallas.
Colby Cantrel and Heather Hatzenbuhler now have their papers from the SS-AAEA competition published online. Colby’s paper is entitled, “Flavor of Georgia: Entrepreneurship and Value Added Products” and Heather’s paper is entitled, “Opportunities for Water Conservation in Georgia: Alternative Energy Technologies in Planned Generation Facilities.” Here is the direct link: http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/ss-aaea/ss-aaea-journal/2013-journal.

Shengfei Fu is the winner of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association’s Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award for her thesis entitled, “Crop Insurance Saving Accounts.” Congratulations, Shengfei, on this well-deserved honor! Shengfei is now enrolled in the department’s Ph.D. program.

Rod Ziemer Lecture- 2014

The annual Rod Ziemer Lecture is set for Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at 11:00 am in 104 Conner Hall. Lunch will follow the lecture with details to be determined at a later time. The Graduate Student Association is pleased to announce that they will have Dr. Keith Coble of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University (MSU) as this year’s guest speaker. The lecture is entitled, “Implications of the 2014 Farm Bill and the Future of Farm Policy in the U.S.” Dr. Coble was named the W.L. Giles Distinguished Professor at MSU in 2009. His background encompasses both academic and government experience. Before accepting his position at MSU, he served as a team leader at the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He regularly speaks to groups and policy makers interested in food and agricultural policy. Dr. Coble has testified before congressional committees and has co-authored over fifty reports for government agencies. His insurance analysis and studies have modified several billion dollars of U.S. crop insurance premiums per year. He has been appointed as an underwriting reviewer for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board of Directors and a member of the Advisory Committee on Biotechnology and 21st Century Agriculture - a workgroup on size and scope of risks.

Graduate Student Spotlight

Will Thompson is in his final semester as an M.S. candidate majoring in agricultural and applied economics. He first came to the department in fall 2011 to satisfy some prerequisites for the M.S. program and was named a Presidential Scholar during that time. He holds a B.A. from Davidson College and won the History Department Award for Most Outstanding Senior Thesis at Davidson.
Early in Will’s second semester, Global Health Action (GHA), an Atlanta-based NGO, approached Will’s major professor, Dr. Nick Magnan, about evaluating their flagship economic development program. Will was presented the opportunity to work on this research project, which he found to be very interesting.

GHA has operated a goat transfer program in the Haitian countryside since the late 1980s. They provide subsistence farmers with a pregnant female goat—a local Creole doe that has been crossed with a purebred Boer—as well as training in animal husbandry, feeding and care, and veterinary basics. The resulting offspring are hardier, more disease resistant, and grow bigger faster than the native Haitian goats. The idea is for beneficiaries to build small, sustainable herds so that they can occasionally sell goats to buy nutritious food, medicine, or pay school fees.

This is the style of program most associated with Heifer International, but practiced all over the world by innumerable NGOs. However, despite the immense popularity of these livestock transfers, there is very little academic literature devoted to them, and we still have a poor understanding of how they work. In order to help fill this void, Will went to Haiti last summer to conduct a household survey of recent beneficiaries. The survey was designed to measure indicators of early progress towards building viable herds and capturing household and community factors that lead to variations in success across beneficiaries. While data is still being analyzed, Will states that he has found strong, statistically significant, and in some cases, surprising results. These findings will help GHA refine their program design, enabling them to assist beneficiaries more efficiently.

In addition to helping GHA, working on the project has advanced Will toward his career goals far beyond his expectations. In collaboration with GHA and with Dr. Magnan’s counsel, Will developed the survey instrument, coded it in CSPro (a powerful survey tool used by governments and NGOs all over the developing world), recruited and trained a team of Haitian enumerators, arranged logistics, and then finally put the survey in the field. Since returning to Athens, Will has gained experience working with raw primary data, which he is using to produce two very different documents—a program evaluation for GHA and his M.S. thesis. He was also able to spend six weeks in a Haitian Creole immersion program. Will feels that having the opportunity to develop practical field work skills so early in his career will serve him well in future, whether he winds up in academia, the NGO world, or a government agency like USAID.

In the immediate future, Will’s research will take him further afield. After completing his M.S. this semester, Will plans to enroll in the Ph.D. program, where he will continue his study of asset transfers, this time in Nepal.

Will was born and raised in Douglasville, Georgia, but currently considers Athens his home. He likes to spend his leisure time with his wife and his dogs. He also loves to travel, cook, and read.
Faculty News

Dr. Michael Wetzstein Wins National Teaching Award

Dr. Michael Wetzstein is the recipient of the National Teaching Award for Food and Agriculture Science from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU). This prestigious award honors university faculty for the use of innovative teaching methods and service to students and was presented to Dr. Wetzstein at the 126th APLU annual meeting in November in Washington, D.C. The award is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, and APLU. Included in this recognition was a $5000 stipend which Dr. Wetzstein donated to the department to strengthen instructional programs. Congratulations and thank you, Dr. Wetzstein!

Years of Service Awards

The following people from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics were recognized with Years of Service Awards at the CAES 2013 Holiday Luncheon in December 2013.

Dr. Jack E. Houston, Jr.  30 years
Dr. Glenn Ames  40 years

Presentations

Research Presentations at Major National or International Professional Conferences

The following participation took place or presentations were made at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings in Dallas, Texas, February 2-6, 2014:

Angioloni, Simone, Jack E. Houston, and Glenn Ames, “Food Insecurity and Educational Achievement.”


Davis, Todd, John Anderson, and Nathan Smith, “Evaluating the Impact of Proposed Farm Bill Programs with Crop Insurance for Southern Crops.”


Ghimire, Ramesh, “Factors Affecting Individuals’ Decision to Participate in Conservation Easement.”
Presented by Ramesh Ghimire.


**Kaninda Tshikala, Sam** and **Esendugue Greg Fonsah**, “Assessing the Impact of Migration and Remittances on Technology Adoption in Rural Senegal.” Presented by Sam Kaninda.

**Karali, Berna** and Gulcan Onel, “Nonlinear Basis Forecasting.” Presented by Berna Karali.


**Li, Xiaofei, Cesar Escalante**, and **James E. Epperson**, “Agricultural Banking and Bank Failures of the Late 2000s Financial Crisis: A Duration Model Analysis.” Presented by Xiaofei Li.


**Luo, Tianyuan** and **Cesar Escalante**, “Determinants of Occupational Changes of U.S. Migrant Farm Workers Under Recessionary Times.”

**Meng, Ting** and Lynne Seymour, “Model County-level Poverty Rate in Georgia Using Spatial Analysis Method.” Poster presentation by Ting Meng.


**Smith, Nathan** chaired SERA39 Public Issues Education Information Exchange Group annual meeting.


**Alan Gluck, Savannah Koetting, Jonathan Balchus, Patrick Conner**, and **Jaclyn Beckley** participated in the SAEA undergraduate Quiz Bowl at the association meetings in Dallas. Glenn C.W. Ames, faculty adviser, coordinated the students’ participation in the Quiz Bowl.

**Other National or International Presentations:**

Other Presentations


Publications

Journal Articles and Other Refereed Publications


**Other Publications**


Shurley, Don. “Cotton.” 2014 Georgia Ag Forecast, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia, January 2014.

Smith, Amanda, Nathan Smith, and Don Shurley. “Row Crop Net Returns.” 2014 Georgia Ag Forecast, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia, January 2014.

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**Alumni News**

Jennie Allison (M.S. in environmental economics in 2013) is an economic development project manager at the CSRA Regional Commission in Augusta, Georgia. Jennie is involved in the writing and administration of state and federal grants to develop and improve the
economies in the thirteen Central Savannah River area counties, as well as promoting the region’s development as a whole. She is currently managing over $3 million in grant funding.

**Carter Dunn** (M.S. in agricultural and applied economics in 2008) is an economist at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. His focus is on production economics, interactive crop budgets, the yearly whole farm planning guide, and yearly crop research verification trials. Carter is an M.B.A. candidate and expected to receive his degree from the University of Arkansas in 2014.

**Myra Clarisse Ferrer** (Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics in 2012) is a senior analyst – customer insights and advanced analytics at Walgreen Company in the greater Chicago area. Clarisse’s work involves assisting with management decision-making and developing strategies and tactics to drive performance towards increased sales, profits, market shares, and other company goals.

**Michelle Hayes** (M.S. in agricultural and applied economics in 2013) is a sales representative at Dow AgroSciences in New Bern, North Carolina.

**Asa Ornelas** (M.S. in agricultural and applied economics in 2011) is a senior strategic marketing analyst at PulteGroup near Orlando, Florida.

**Jack Purvis** (M.S. in agricultural economics in 2011) is a business analytics analyst at HAVI Global Solutions in Downers Grove, Illinois.

**Cheng Qiu** (Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics in 2012) is a statistician/science QA engineer (enterprise marketing management) at IBM Demand Tec Solutions in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Phil Shoutherland** (BSA in agricultural economics in 2005) launched the Team Type 1 Foundation on November 14, World Diabetes Day. The Foundation is a nonprofit which aims to address disparities in diabetes care around the world. The foundation will provide up to seven scholarships of $5,000 each to help student-athletes and their families offset the cost of diabetes care. The program is modeled on Macedonia’s national diabetes program developed by Phil’s wife, Dr. Biljana Southerland, who serves as program director, medical and governmental affairs, for the Team Type 1 Foundation. Phil is co-founder and CEO of Team Nova Nordisk (formerly Team Type 1), a global sports organization for more than 100 endurance athletes with diabetes. [www.teamtype1.org](http://www.teamtype1.org)

**Katie Williams** (BSA in agribusiness in 2011) is the staffing manager at Accounting Principals in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is responsible for sourcing and recruiting accounting professionals in temporary, temporary to hire, and direct hire positions. She works with a number of candidates across accounting positions including payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, collections, credit, purchasing, staff accountants, financial analysts, and accounting managers.
Bob Parker was named president and CEO of the National Peanut Board (NPB) in Atlanta in December 2012. Parker’s first year at NPB was a busy one with the undertaking of a new brand platform, “The Perfectly Powerful Peanut,” and a consumer education initiative on peanut allergy. The Perfectly Powerful Peanut was unveiled to the industry at the American Peanut Council winter conference in Washington, DC. The goal of the new brand platform is to raise consumer health and wellness association with peanuts and peanut butter. “Peanuts have more protein than any other nut, 7 grams of plant-based protein; they have more than 30 vitamins and minerals; and they offer heart health benefits. People love peanuts and peanut butter. They need to know that peanuts are a healthy nut option,” said Parker.

NPB is also tackling the food allergy issue head on with a major public relations initiative. To make sure that all information is accurate, NPB is working with a scientific advisory council comprised of world-renowned food allergy experts and researchers who provide ongoing guidance on food allergy issues. In its history, NPB has invested over $10 million in food allergy research, outreach, and education, and there are now promising solutions on the horizon. The new initiative is a proactive program that allows NPB staff to respond to school bans, media inaccuracies, and food allergy questions.

Prior to taking the position at NPB, Parker spent twenty-six years with Alpharetta-based Golden Peanut Company. He served in various roles, including oversight of the company’s farmer stock procurement functions, its seed business, logistics, and operations in Argentina. At the time of his departure from Golden, he was Vice President of Industry Relations and Seed where he represented the company in relationships with growers, industry organizations, customers, government agencies, and government officials – elected and appointed. He also represented the company in industry leadership positions. While serving as Vice President of Procurement for Golden, the procurement group developed and implemented an industry-leading, web-based contracting and commercial settlement platform. In addition, Parker devised the concept, developed the methodology, and took a lead role in the industry’s adoption of “high moisture grading,” the culmination of more than ten years of testing, securing independent statistical validation, gaining stakeholder support, and lobbying the USDA to approve and implement through the Federal-State Inspection Service.

Parker is a 1977 graduate of the University of Georgia with a BSA in agricultural economics with a marketing
concentration. “I have been fortunate to spend my entire career in one industry, where I have developed many relationships and deep friendships,” said Parker. “Since graduating from Georgia, I have seen thirty-seven peanut crops and no two have been alike. The more I see, the more I realize that I still have a lot to learn. I take pride in promoting such a wonderful product and supporting the over seven thousand farm families who depend on peanuts for their livelihoods,” he added.

Parker and his wife, Margaret Ann, make their home in Atlanta.

Opportunity to Support Department

Please consider making an investment in future agricultural economics and agribusiness leaders of our state and nation by supporting our educational programs. To support the Agricultural Economics Fund (which supports general departmental activities), the Stephen J. Brannen Student Leadership Fund, Tom Frazier Scholarship Fund, Wen Williams Scholarship Fund, Evan Brown International Education Fund, William Firor Scholarship Fund, Roy Proctor Scholarship Fund, or Tate Brookins Scholarship Fund, please make checks payable to the UGA Foundation and make a notation on the check (or include a note) to indicate which fund you want to support. Mail all checks to Audrey Cox, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509.

Obituaries

Dr. James Oliver Wise, Sr., age 82, passed away on Saturday, November 16, 2013. Dr. Wise was a professor of agricultural economics at the University of Georgia for 32 years. He was a member of the St. James United Methodist Church in Athens, where he served in many positions of leadership. Funeral services for Dr. Wise were held at St. James United Methodist Church in Athens, with the Revs. Bill Curington and Jerry Meredith officiating. Interment was at Evergreen Memorial Park.
2013 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award Winners

The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia (AEAG) presents yearly awards to agricultural economists who have demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership on a community, state, national, or international level. Candidacy is limited to agricultural economists operating in Georgia and/or graduates of a degree program offered by the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at The University of Georgia.

There are two awards which are based on the number of years of experience. The *J. W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award* is presented to those with more than ten years of professional experience. The *J. W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award* is presented to those with ten years or less of professional experience.

Congratulations to our 2013 winners!

**Dr. John C. McKissick** is the winner of the 2013 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award. He is a nationally recognized economist with responsibilities at the CAES in development and implementation of economics and marketing programs for Georgia agribusiness firms as well as policy and data studies for public and private decision makers. Primary areas of emphasis include price and profit outlook, cost and return analysis through enterprise budgets and records, marketing alternatives, market planning, and feasibility analysis. Most recently, Dr. McKissick organized the Fiscal Impact Center in the Carl Vinson Institute of Government and is the principal investigator on a federal grant to study pecan markets and the economics of alternative production systems in the United States. He formerly served as the extension program coordinator for the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Director of the University’s Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development (CAED).

**Jim Faircloth** is the recipient of the 2013 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award. Jim is employed by Syngenta as a District Manager. He manages a team of 7 who are accountable for crop protection products, vegetable seed, seed-care products, corn and soy seed, and triticale in the area of Southern California, Arizona and Hawaii. One of Jim’s major challenges in his new position is navigating the extensive regulatory laws in one of the most diverse agricultural landscapes.

The new officers of the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia are listed below:

**Chris Groskreutz** – President
**Carrie Fowler** – Secretary

**Greg Tyler** – Vice President
**Candice Clark McKie** – Treasurer
Greetings!

I am Chris Groskreutz and I am honored and excited to serve as president of the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia (AEAG). I am also blessed to be a two time graduate of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department of the University of Georgia. I wanted to begin this letter by letting you know why my time on campus was a special time for me and ask you to do the same. It was during this time that I learned how large the world could be, yet how small it really is. It introduced me to people who would become friends, mentors, future bosses and even father figures. It also taught me that relationships today can mean the world for tomorrow and to never forsake them – Thank you Dr. Fred White and the late David Bennett for asking me to be a part of this organization 10 years ago! I will spare you any more of my personal remembrances, but I am willing to bet that many alumni share a similar fondness to Conner Hall, but for one reason or another, as life often does, you became well… a little “disconnected”.

For many of you reading this, you have seen this very effort repeated on a regular basis. You receive this newsletter; you skim through it and take away a nugget or two of information and maybe even some nostalgia - which is good! But then what? Do you hit delete or simply toss it in the trash? Or do you start to feel like you are missing out on something going on back in Athens? Be honest with yourself… in either case you aren’t alone. The good thing is that if you want to do something about it, it’s never too late. I’d like to invite you back.

I want to personally invite you to come join the Department and OUR students at the next Conner Connects banquet on April 17th. If you were fortunate to have attended a banquet in the past, you know the importance of this event and how it pays tribute to the hard work the students, faculty, and staff put into making Conner Hall the special place that it is. By simply showing up, you will share in this special time for our current students and demonstrate to them the importance of staying connected. If you can’t tell by now, I’m a bit of a sentimentalist, but someone once told me that time is precious and because of that, it is the greatest gift of all. Please share an evening of your busy life with us and re-Connect with Conner! You’ll be glad you did.

Whether or not you can make it back to campus, we would also like to offer you a chance to stay connected year round by joining the AEAG. As Georgia’s #1 industry, agriculture is supported by the farm managers, agribusinesses, researchers, policy makers, and many other professions that lean on our expertise. Your small investment in the association will go a long way in helping promote the importance of an industry that provides over 380,000 jobs in Georgia. The AEAG was established in 1976 and its goals are:

- To provide opportunities for the professional improvement of people interested in the field of agricultural economics.
- To provide a forum for the discussion of economic problems and issues of mutual interest to people working in agriculture, agribusiness, and related fields.
- To recommend solutions to economic problems facing Georgia's agriculture.

AEAG membership offers benefits through the following:

* Journal of Agribusiness  * J.W. Fanning Lecture
* AEAG newsletter  * Recognition for career accomplishments
* Enhanced educational opportunities for students in agricultural economics

You can also stay connected by visiting our website at www.aeag.uga.edu. For more information on our organization and annual awards program, find us now on Facebook and maybe even on Twitter in the near future!

As our past President Bryan Tolar so eloquently put it last year, “An investment in AEAG is an investment in your future.”

Won’t you join us?

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chris Groskreutz (BS’02-Agribusiness, MS’05-Agricultural Economics)
AEAG President

Below you will find an application for membership. Lifetime memberships are also available. If you would like to know more about AEAG, visit the AEAG website at www.aeag.uga.edu. (Please see the registration form below.)
Yes, I would like to join the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia!

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_____Corporate Member - $150
_____Individual Lifetime Member - $250
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Please send your membership application and dues to the following address: Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602-7509

For more information, call 706-542-0763 or visit www.aeag.uga.edu