



Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
The University of Georgia

Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2014

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Dear Friends:

Our annual J.W. Fanning Lecture on October 2 was a great success. Mr. Jack Sinclair, Executive Vice President of the Grocery Division of Walmart U.S. lectured on the topic: “Walmart and the Future of Food.” His presentation was both informative and entertaining and we experienced a record-breaking attendance with very interesting post-lecture questions and discussions. At the luncheon following the presentation, the 2014 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award was presented to Mr. Jere Thorne, CEO and president of Gresco Utility Supply, Inc. The 2014 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award was presented to Ben Mosely, a senior professional staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture. Congratulations to both of our deserving award winners!

I would also like to congratulate our students who graduated in the spring and summer of 2014. There are 65 undergraduate and 12 graduate students who have received degrees from our department so far this year. In this newsletter, you will read about some outstanding students who have been recognized with awards, including Gena Perry for her presentation at the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) meetings, Alexandra Wright for her presentation at the EPA symposium, and Grace Melo who won an Outstanding Selected Poster Award at the AAEA meetings.

Please be sure to read our *Spotlight* sections in this newsletter as well. Our Faculty Spotlight features Dr. Scott Shonkwiler, an internationally renowned professor and Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. Our Graduate Student Spotlight features Grace Melo, a first year Ph.D. student who completed her M.S. program in our department last December. Our Alumni Spotlight features Rachel McLocklin Santos, a recent graduate who is now a legislative assistant in the office of Senator Saxby Chambliss in Washington, D.C.

The department welcomes two new faculty members this fall semester – Dr. Craig Landry and Dr. Travis Smith, and we extend our warmest congratulations to Professor Terry Centner for winning the 2014 D.W. Brooks Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the 2014 Distinguished Service Award from the American Agricultural Law Association. Also sincere congratulations to Dr. Cesar Escalante for winning the D. W. Brooks Faculty Diversity Award from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

As we draw near to the close of 2014, I would like to wish each of you and your families a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Sincerely,

Octavio A. Ramirez

Professor and Department Head

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30th Annual J. W. Fanning Lecture and Awards Luncheon



Mr. Jack L. Sinclair, Executive Vice President, Grocery Division, Walmart U.S., was the speaker at the 30th annual J. W. Fanning Lecture on October 2, 2014. Mr. Sinclair has responsibility for all aspects of grocery merchandising at more than 4,000 stores in the United States.

The turn-out for Mr. Sinclair’s lecture was greater than had been anticipated. He spoke to a standing-room only interdisciplinary audience on the topic, “Walmart and the Future of Food.” The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia extends their sincere thanks to Walmart and to Mr. Sinclair for his willingness to travel to Athens and give of his time and

talents and share from his wealth of knowledge with us.

2014 J. W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Awards



L. to R. Dr. Octavio Ramirez, Ben Mosely, & Chris Groskreutz

The winner of the 2014 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award is **Ben Mosely**. He is a senior professional staff member for the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture and was the lead negotiator for the commodities and crop insurance titles on the farm bill as well as being responsible for working with the USDA in their oversight in related areas. He has worked as an agricultural advisor to Senator Saxby Chambliss, and served at the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission as an Agricultural Water Resource Specialist and Regional Representative. Since Ben could not be present to accept his award, it was presented via Skype.



L. to R. Jay, Jackie, Jere, & Allison Thorne

The winner of the 2014 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award is **Jere Thorne**, CEO and president of Gresco Utility Supply, Inc., the strongest regional electric supply company in the U.S. He was a partner and chief economist with Hampton Group of Boston and has been involved in private consulting. He served as Director of Governmental Affairs for the Georgia Electric Membership Corporation and served as a liaison between the Georgia General Assembly, the Public Service Commission of Georgia, the U.S. Congress, and the Electric Cooperative Systems in the state of Georgia. At one point in his career, Jere declined an appointment by President George H. W. Bush to head up the Farm Credit Administration in Washington, D.C. For ten years, Jere served as an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and received numerous awards during that time.

Student News

Spring 2014 Graduation



Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the Spring and Summer of 2014!

Undergraduate Students

Name	Honors	Degree	Major
Nickie Eve Alexander	Magna Cum Laude	BSES	EEM
Joel Curtis Alvey	Summa Cum Laude	BSA	AGB
Adrianna Arriola		BSES	EEM
Philip Daniel Ashford		BSES	EEM
Melanie Claire Bahnsen		BSA	FIMA
Jonathan Moroni Balchus	Cum Laude	BSA	AGB
Raymond Russell Battles, III		BSES	EEM
Jaclyn Jenkins Beckley	With Honors	BSA	AGB
Margaret Rose Braski	Cum Laude	BSA	FIMA
William Andrew Broder		BSA	AGB
Sarah Kathryn Brown	Magna Cum Laude	BSA	AAE
Martha Rose Boyles		BSES	EEM
Eric William Caltabiano		BSA	AAE
Christopher Douglas Campbell		BSA	AGB
Katelyn Brooke Clements	Summa Cum Laude	BSA	AGB
Nicholas Reid Clymer		BSES	EEM
Gregory Sykes Crumley		BSA	AAE
John Howard Dickey		BSA	AGB
Derek Anthony Dillinger		BSES	EEM
Brittany Lyn Doster		BSA	AGB
Amanda Marie Drisdell		BSA	AAE
Tyler Arnold Dungan	Magna Cum Laude	BSA	AGB
Adam Harold Dye		BSA	AGB
Randall Cleveland Ellis		BSA	AGB
Justin Bruce Engle		BSA	AAE
Tyler Scott Foister		BSA	AGB
John Randall Foster		BSA	AGB
Coleman Deane Fowble, Jr	Cum Laude	BSES	EEM

Name	Honors	Degree	Major
Denver Joel Franks		BSA	AGB
Brian Garcia		BSA	AGB
Alan Lawson Gluck		BSA	AGB
Henning John Haaren		BSA	AGB
William Ryan Hamsley		BSA	AGB
Bradley Coleman Harris		BSA	AGB
Jeanna Frances Heard	Magna Cum Laude	BSES	EEM
Byron Keith Kenney, Jr		BSA	AGB
Ryan P. Keysar		BSES	EEM
Savannah Marie Koetting		BSA	AGB
David Harrington Lee		BSA	AGB
Olivia Madisan Marchbanks		BSES	EEM
Meredith Catherine Marmande	Cum Laude	BSES	EEM
Matthew Richard Mays	Summa Cum Laude	BSA	AAE
Mackenzie Taylor Misenhamer		BSA	AGB
Benjamin James Morris		BSA	AGB
Samantha Rose Morton		BSES	EEM
William Martin Moses, Jr.		BSA	AGB
Samuel Jackson Noland		BSA	AAE
Clinton Ledon Paulk		BSA	AGB
Kristin Brooks Palmerton		BSA	AAE
Justin Leo Pollock		BSA	AAE
Melanie Ann Rausch		BSES	EEM
Karl Michael Schaffer	Cum Laude	BSES	EEM
Cameron Nathan Sewall		BSA	AGB
Robert Hill Shackelford, Jr.		BSES	EEM
Trenton Saul Smith		BSA	AGB
Dalton McCurry Tankersley		BSA	AGB
Rachel Renee Taylor		BSES	EEM
Joshua Cain Thurmond	Cum Laude	BSA	AAE
Tia Nadine Ware		BSES	EEM
Paul Alan Wildes		BSES	EEM
Ashley Nichole Williams	Cum Laude	BSA	AGB
David Clay Williams		BSA	AGB
Rachel Marie Winkler		BSA	AAE
Abbey Michelle Vickers (secondary major)		BSA	AAE
Alexander James Zimmerman		BSES	EEM

Graduate Students

Aaron John Bose		MS	EEC
Sebastain Nde Awondo		PhD	AAE
Joanna Leroi Brown		MS	AAE
Ghangelaf Lafaye Jones		MS	AAE
Sam Tshikala Kaninda		PhD	AAE
Chun Li		MS	AAE
Ting Meng		PhD	AAE
Abby Dean Moore		MS	AAE
Adenola Olumayowa Osinubi		MS	AAE
Changkeun Park		PhD	AAE
William Munro Thompson		MS	AAE
Yiwei Yan		MS	AAE

Departmental Enrollment

Undergraduate student enrollment for the fall semester is 260.

Graduate student enrollment for the fall semester is 74: 32 Ph.D. students, 31 M.S. students, and 11 M.A.B. students.

Student News from the Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAEA) Annual Meetings:

Grace Melo (Ph.D. student) won the 2014 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association Latin American Section Outstanding Selected Poster award for her poster entitled, “Hispanic Immigrants’ Opinions towards Immigration and Immigration Policy Reform,” which was co-authored by Drs. Gregory Colson and Octavio Ramirez.



**Alec Shepherd,
Alexander Wright,
& Luis Peña-
Levano** →



**Gena Perry &
Alexandra Wright**
←



Gena Perry, Alex Shepherd, and Alexandra Wright, all MAB majors, participated in the AEA Graduate Student Extension Case Study Competition at the annual meetings in Minneapolis, MN in July. Alexandra’s presentation entitled, “Poop for Thought: Make More Money with Your Poultry Litter?” won 3rd place. Gena was a finalist in the Graduate Student Extension Competition with her presentation entitled, “Economic and Community Development Opportunities for Aquaponics in Georgia.

← **Alexandra Wright**

Alexandra Wright won first place and a scholarship at the EPA Symposium in Atlanta for a poster which was co-authored by Dr. Joshua Berning and Dr. Cesar Escalante entitled, “Poop for Thought: How Anaerobic Digestion Protects Georgia’s Natural Resources.”

Graduate Student Spotlight

Grace Melo



Grace Melo is a first year Ph.D. student from Quito, Ecuador. She received a B.S. in Food Science from Zamorano University, Honduras in 2010. Grace worked in the department as a student intern from January through May of 2011, then entered the M.S. program in the spring of 2012. She completed her M.S. program in December 2013 and entered the Ph.D. program in Spring 2014.

Grace serves as a tutor in Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANNRRS) at the UGA Athens location. She is a volunteer at the Hispanic Student Association. She is also a volunteer at the International Student Ministry which meets at the Athens First Methodist Church. She was an Ambulance Volunteer at the Zamorano University in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Grace has quite a list of honors and awards to her credit. Her latest is the Second Place Graduate Student Case Study Competition Award her team won at the 2014 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her poster was also chosen as Outstanding Selected Poster in the Latin American Section of those meetings. Grace is a member of the Honor Society and a member of Gamma Sigma Delta. She won second place in the Food Insecurity Conference poster presentation at UGA in spring 2013. The Ecuadorian government awarded Grace with a scholarship to pursue a graduate degree, and she received an award and scholarship from Women Leadership to attend Zamorano University in Honduras. She was recognized for Outstanding Academic Performance at Zamorano University in 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010.

Future career goals for Grace include teaching and conducting research on food policy to gain experience first and later working on international projects such the World Food Program to help people in the developing world.

In her leisure time, Grace likes to go to the Ramsey Center and take fitness classes. When she has time, she likes to go hiking, swimming, dancing, watch movies, and explore new places. Every Friday, she participates in a Bible study group with international students who she considers her family here in the U.S. She is learning Chinese and ballroom dancing. These activities have allowed her to meet people from different backgrounds and interests.

Grace stated, "I would like to thank Dr. Colson and Dr. Ramirez who have guided me during these years. Because of their advice and support, my M.S. graduation and my first publication were possible: Melo, G., G. Colson, and O.A. Ramirez. "Hispanic American Opinions towards Immigration and Immigration Policy Reform Proposals." *Applied Economic Perspectives & Policy* (accepted).

"I also would like to thank the department for giving me the opportunity to go to China through the CAES Study Abroad Program and the chance to have a real teaching experience this summer," Grace added.

Faculty News

Faculty Awards



The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has awarded **Professor Terry Centner** the 2014 D.W. Brooks Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. This award recognizes exceptional creativity and excellence in classroom instruction in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and is the highest honor bestowed by the college upon a member of the teaching faculty for achievement in instruction. Professor Centner teaches four law courses for the college, serves as the pre-law advisor, and is teaching in the AG*IDEA national distance education program. Seven of his undergraduate students have co-written research papers in refereed journals, and one has co-authored a book chapter.

At its national conference in Albuquerque, NM, the American Agricultural Law Association presented Professor Terry Centner the 2014 Distinguished Service Award. This award recognized Professor Centner's service to the association as secretary-treasurer and president, organization of sessions at national and international conferences, and his research scholarship in agricultural law. Congratulations, Professor Centner!



Dr. Cesar Escalante was selected to receive the D. W. Brooks CAES Faculty Diversity Award in recognition of his outstanding work with departmental minority graduate students and his research program that has helped raise awareness of the need for more equitable consideration in farming, finance, and policymaking favorable to racial and gender minority groups in his outreach clientele and their counterparts nationwide. Congratulations, Dr. Escalante!

Welcome New Faculty



Dr. Craig Landry is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. He received his B.S.A. in environmental economics and management in 1996 and an M.S. in agricultural economics in 1999, both from the University of Georgia. He received a Ph.D. in agricultural and natural resource economics from the University of Maryland in 2004. Before joining our department, he was a professor at East Carolina University at Greenville, NC and an associate scientist at the Institute for Coastal Science and Policy (ICSP). Dr. Landry also served as the assistant director for the Center for Natural Hazards Research (CNHR). Welcome, Dr. Landry!



Dr. Travis A. Smith is an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. He received his B.S.A. in agribusiness and his M.S. in agricultural and applied economics from the University of Georgia. He recently received his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Smith will be teaching undergraduate macroeconomics food policy in the spring and consumer demand theory in the fall of 2015. Welcome, Dr. Smith!

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Scott Shonkwiler



Dr. Scott Shonkwiler joined the faculty in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics almost two and one half years ago. He received an A.B. in Russian studies in 1972 and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 1979, both from the University of Missouri. He joined our department after working as a professor in the Department of Resource Economics at the University of Nevada for over twenty years.

Currently, Dr. Shonkwiler is focusing his research on models of recreation demand. He explained, “Typically, demand in this context is measured by the number of trips or visits people make to one or more recreational sites. Two types of surveys are generally used to collect this information. A survey of a population of those who engage in certain types of recreation (boaters or anglers, for example) or a survey conducted at the site of the recreation. The first type of survey has certain characteristics associated with the fact that many respondents will report zero visits to the sites of interest. The second type of survey will necessarily have reports of at least one visit. Furthermore, those that visit the site more frequently will more likely be surveyed. Much of my research has been devoted to methods for correcting on-site surveys for what is termed avidity bias. An additional feature of both types of surveys is that usually a very few respondents will report a very large number of visits. Consequentially this also complicates the treatment of the data.”

Dr. Shonkwiler’s list of awards and recognitions is quite impressive. Topping the list is his being named a Fellow by the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association in 2011. This is the most prestigious honor offered by the association. He was selected as a Distinguished Scholar by the Western Agricultural Economics Association in 2009. Dr. Shonkwiler served as the Pays de La Loire Research Chair, Institut National de La Recherche Agronomique (INRA), 2008-2009 and served as president of the Western Regional Research Project W-1133, “Benefits and Costs of Natural Resource Policies Affecting Public and Private Lands,” 2002-2003. In 2000, he received the Outstanding Service Award from the Western Agricultural Economics Association, and in 1998-2000, he served as editor of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*. In 1996, Dr. Shonkwiler was presented the Outstanding Researcher Award by the College of Agriculture, University of Nevada. He served as associate editor of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 1991-1994.

Dr. Shonkwiler grew up on farms in central Illinois and southwest Missouri. He went to the University of Missouri for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Russian studies and a minor in mathematics, completed in 1972. After working as an insurance adjuster, he returned to the University of Missouri where he completed a doctorate in agricultural economics in 1979 as an advisee of Stan Johnson. His first faculty appointment was at the University of Florida where he studied the markets for specialty crops and developed supply response models. In 1991 he moved to the University of Nevada's Department of Resource Economics. There he became interested in revealed preference methods for non-market valuation.

Dr. Shonkwiler has a passion for food and wine, so in his leisure time, he enjoys cooking and visiting wineries. He mentioned that he has fewer opportunities in Georgia than in Northern California for those wineries visits. He also enjoys traveling, especially if it can be linked to his love of food and wine. He is married to Vanessa who is French and provides a lot of inspiration to his cooking. They have a daughter, Alyssa, who is 3½ years old and a son, Trevor, who is 2 years old. Dr. Shonkwiler also has two adult daughters who live out west.

Presentations

Research Presentation at Major Professional (National or International) Conferences

Berning, J. and M. McCullough. "Quality Competition in the Craft Beer Industry: An Empirical Analysis of New England." Presented by M. McCullough at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, AEM and FAMPS Section, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN and FDRS annual meeting, November, 1-4, 2014, Salt Lake City, UT.

Berning, J., A. Bonanno, and M. McCullough. "Retail Beer Prices Across Channels and Locations: A Hedonic Analysis." Presented by Dr. Joshua Berning at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, AEM, and FAMPS Section, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Brebitus, Carola, **Gregory Colson,** and Wuyang Hu. "European Consumer Preferences for Domestic and Imported Beef and International Quality Certification and Growth Hormone Claims." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Dorfman, Jeffrey, Paul Matthews, and **Xuedong Wu.** "The Employment Impacts of Service-Learning Classes." Poster presented by Xuedong Wu at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Ferreira, Susana and **Bena Karali.** "An Assessment of the Impact of Earthquakes on Global Capital Markets." Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Fu, Shengfei, Anna M. Klepacka, and **Wojciech J. Florkowski.** "Household Whole-and Low-Fat Milk Consumption in Poland: An Application of Bivariate Two-Part Model." Selected poster presented by Shengfei Fu at the European Association of Agricultural

Scientists' 2014 Annual Meetings, August 26-29, 2014, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Hill, Elizabeth, Michell Ranville, and T.J. Wyatt. Organizers of organized symposium, "The Economics of Honey Bee Health: A Dialogue on Current Work, Critical Extensions, and Policy-Relevant Research." Annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Hood, Harrison and **Jeffrey Dorfman.** "Testing Timber Market Linkages with a STAR Model with Housing Start-Controlled Transitions." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Kostandini, Genti, Roberto La Rovere, and Zhe Guo, "Potential Impacts of Fertilizer Efficient Maize for Sub-Saharan Africa." Paper presented at the SIBR-RDINRRU 2014 Hong Kong Conference on Interdisciplinary Business & Economics Research, September 27th - 28th, 2014, Hong Kong.

Li, Anzhi and **Jeffrey Dorfman.** "Composite Qualitative Forecasting of Futures Prices: Using One Commodity to Help Forecast Another." Selected paper presented by Anzhi Li at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Li, Xiaofei, Cesar Escalante, and **James Epperson.** "A Split-Population Duration Approach to Understanding Agricultural Banking Survival Strategies During the Late 2000s Recession." Selected paper presented by Xiaofei Li at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Meas, Thong, Wuyang Hu, Carola Grebitus, and **Gregory Colson.** "The Effects of Country of Origin Images and Patriotism on British Consumer Preference for Beef." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Melo, G., G. Colson, O. Ramirez. "Hispanic Immigrants' Opinions towards Immigration and

Immigration Policy Reform." Selected poster presented by Grace Melo at the annual meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Menapace, L., **G. Colson**, R. Raffaelli. "Farmers' Climate Change Risk Perceptions: An Application of the Exchangeability Method." Selected paper presented by L. Menapace at the EAAE Congress, August 2014, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Meng, Ting. Moderator, "The Changes in Maternal Household and Social Roles and Children's Health Outcomes." Annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Meng, Ting, Wojciech Florkowski, Daniel Sarpong, **Manjeet Chinnan**, and Anna Resurreccion. "Do Supermarkets Promote Fresh Vegetable and Fruit Consumption in Urban Ghana? An Application of Non-Parametric Analysis." Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Meng, Ting, Wojciech Florkowski, Daniel Sarpong, **Manjeet Chinnan**, and Anna Resurreccion. "Modeling Food Retail Format Choice and Shopping Frequency Decision in Urban Ghana: A Multivariate Ordered Probit Regression Application." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Meng, Ting, Wojciech Florkowski, Daniel Sarpong, **Manjeet Chinnan**, and Anna Resurreccion. "Modeling the Cooking Fuel Usage in Urban Households: The Case of Ghana." Selected poster presented by Dr. Wojciech Florkowski at the 14th EAAE Congress, August 29th, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Moore, Abby, Nicholas Magnan, and Ruth Meinzen-Dick. "Gender-Disaggregated Time and Risk Preferences and Agricultural Technology Adoption in Kenya and Tanzania." Selected paper presented by Nick Magnan at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Mykerezi, Elton and **Gentian Kostandini**. "Impact of Immigration Enforcement on Farm Household Labor Allocation." Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Nambiar, Padmanand Madhavan, Wojciech Florkowski, Manjeet Chinnan, and Anna Resurreccion. "Analysis of Various Household Expenditures at Urban Households in the Republic of Uganda: A Multivariate Tobit Approach." Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Onel, Glucan and **Berna Karali**. "Relative Performance of Semi-Parametric Nonlinear Models in Forecasting Basis." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Pena-Levano, Luis and **Octavio Ramirez**. "Efficiency Gains in Cotton Price-Forecasting Using Different Levels of Data Aggregation." Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Ramirez, Octavio, Carlos Carpio, and Alba Collart. "Producer Welfare Implications of the RMA's 'Shrinkage' Crop Insurance Premium Estimator." Selected paper presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Rusiana, Hofner, Ghangela Jones, and **Cesar Escalante**. "Do Farm Lenders Attitudes and Risk Assessment Models Encourage Organic Farms' Debt Aversion?" Poster presented by Hofner Rusiana at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Song, Minrong and **Cesar Escalante**. "Pre-and Post-Recession Input Allocation Decisions of Farm Credit System Lending Units." Poster presented by Minrong Song at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Stegelin, Forrest. “Integrating Macroeconomics to Extension Agribusiness Economics Programs.” Annual meetings of the Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA), June 2014, Colorado Springs, CO.

Stegelin, Forrest. “Teachable Moments and Lessons Learned in Using Simulations and Games in Agribusiness Marketing and Management.” Annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Stegelin, Forrest. “A Dashboard of Macroeconomics Graphics for Extension/Classroom Agribusiness Management.” Post-Conference annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Stegelin, Forrest. Moderator, “Farm Finance.” Annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Wang, Nanying and Jack Houston, Jr. “Consumer Attitudes toward the Use of Gene Technology in Functional Breakfast Grain Products: Comparison between College Students from the US and China.” Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Xian, Hui, Berna Karali, Gregory Colson, and Michael Wetzstein. “Conversion of Shipping Fleets from Diesel to Compressed Natural Gas: A Real Options Analysis.” Poster presented at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Ye, Shiyu. Moderator, “Determinants of Food and Energy Prices.” Annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Ye, Shiyu, Berna Karali, and Octavio Ramirez. “Event Study of Energy Price Volatility: An Application of Distributional Event Response Model.” Selected paper presented by Shiyu Ye at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, July 2014, Minneapolis, MN.

Other Presentations

Centner, Terence J. “Incorporation of Management Practices into Hydraulic Fracturing Regulations.” Paper submitted at the American Agricultural Law Association Symposium, Albuquerque, NM, October 2014.

Colson, G., G. Melo, and O. Ramirez. “Immigration Reform from the Perspective of Legal and Illegal Hispanic Immigrants,” Invited Paper presented by Dr. Greg Colson, Festschrift for Wallace Huffman, August 2014, Ames, IA.

Escalante, Cesar served as Panel Reviewer, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Agriculture & Food Research Initiative’s (AFRI), Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities (AERC) Priority Area- Small and Medium Sized Farm Program, August 2014, Washington, DC.

Escalante, C.L., G. Jones, and H. Rusiana. “Organic Farms’ Debt Aversion and Farm Lenders’ Attitudes.” Presented by Dr. C. L. Escalante at the annual meeting of the NC-1177 (Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets in Transition) Research Hatch Group, October 16-17, Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank.

Landry, Craig E. “Design of Stated Preference Choice Experiments.” Department of Economics, University of Alaska, 2014, Anchorage, AK.

Landry, Craig E. and John C. Whitehead. “Economic Values of Coastal Erosion Management.” North Carolina Sea Grant Research Day, 2014, Raleigh, NC.

Landry, Craig E. and Hans Vogelsong. 2014. “Getting the Most Out of Onsite Data Collection.” Northeast Recreation Research Symposium, 2014, Cooperstown, NY.

Magnan, Nicholas, David J. Spielman, Kajal Gulati, and Travis J. Lybbert. "Men and Women's Information Networks and Demand for an Agricultural Technology in India." Invited seminar presented by Dr. Nicholas Magnan, October 23, 2014, Michigan State University.

Shurley, Don. "2014 Farm Bill—Cotton Decisions and Implications," Invited presentation to the *National Farm Bill Education Conference*, September 3-4, 2014, Kansas City, MO.

Shurley, Don. "2015 Cotton Outlook", Invited presentation to the *Southern Region Agricultural Outlook Conference*, September 22-14, 2014, Atlanta, GA.

Stegelin, Forrest. "A Dashboard of Macroeconomics Graphics for Extension Agribusiness Management." Western Education/Extension and Research Activities Committee on Agribusiness (WERA-72) annual conference, June 30, 2014, Santa Clara, CA.

Wright, Alexandra, Joshua Berning, and Cesar Escalante. "Poop for Thought: How Anaerobic Digestion Protects Georgia's Natural Resources." Poster presented at the Water Education Summit, Asheville, NC and the EPA Youth Symposium, Atlanta, GA.

Wright, Alexandra, N.B. Smith, R. Sirinivasan, A. K. Culbreath, R.C. Kemerait, R.S. Tubbs, and A.K. Hagan. "Analysis of Alternative Insecticides for Thrips and Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus Management." Presented by Alexandra Wright at the American Peanut Research and Education Society Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Publications

Journal Articles and Other Refereed Publications

Alhotan, R.A., G.M. Pesti, and **G. Colson** (2014). "Reducing Crude Protein Variability and Maximizing Savings when Formulating Corn-Soybean Meal Based Feeds." *Journal of Applied Poultry Science*, 23(3):456-469.

Mykerezi, Elton, **Genti Kostandini, Jeffrey L. Jordan**, and Ilda Melo. (2014) "On Rural-Urban Differences in Human Capital Formation: Finding the 'Bottlenecks.'" *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*, 29(1):17-47.

Qiu, Y., G. Colson, C. Grebitus (2014). "Risk Preferences and Purchase of Energy-Efficient Technologies in the Residential Sector." *Ecological Economics*, 107:216-229.

Qiu, C., G. Colson, M.E. Wetzstein (2014). "An Ethanol Blend Wall Shift is Prone to Increase Petroleum Gasoline Demand." *Energy Economics*, 44:160-165.

Other Publications

Hales, David, William Hohenstein, Marcie Bidwell, **Craig E. Landry**, David McGranahan, Joseph Molnar, Lois Morton, and Maria Vasquez. (2014) "Rural Communities." *Synthesis of the National Climate Assessment*, U.S. Global Change Research Program, Washington, D.C.

Shurley, W. Don, Stanley Culpepper, **Amanda Smith**, and Bob Nichols. (July 2014) “Economic Analysis of Heavy Rye Cover Crop to Control Glyphosate-Resistant Palmer Amaranth in Cotton.” *2013 Cotton Research and Extension Report*, Annual Publication 108-2, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

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**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



The department head and members of the faculty and staff of the Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics join in wishing you a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.



Alumni Spotlight



Rachel McLocklin Santos

Rachel McLocklin Santos is a legislative assistant in the office of Senator Saxby Chambliss in Washington, D.C. She manages a portfolio of issues including agriculture, conservation, nutrition, forestry, rural development, environment, and bio-energy. She also serves as a liaison to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. Rachel represents and speaks on behalf of the senator in meetings with private industry, academia, and constituents. She also manages and advises the senator on legislation. Most recently, she was involved

with the Agricultural Act of 2014 (farm bill) during the Senate Agriculture Committee's mark-up, Senate floor consideration, and through the conferencing process.

Rachel received a B.S.A. in agricultural and applied economics with a minor in environmental law in 2010. While at UGA, she served as a senator in the Student Government Association, a student representative on the University Council, as chairman of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Ambassadors, president of the Ag Hill Council, president of the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club, treasurer of the Alpha Zeta Agricultural Honors Fraternity, fund-raising coordinator for Dawgs for Haiti, student representative for the Faculty Council, re-founding member of Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society, and a member of AGHON Honor Society.

Rachel was recently chosen as the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Young Alumni Achievement Award winner.

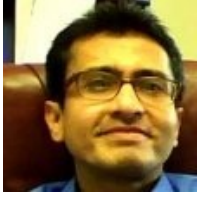
Over the past four and a half years, Rachel has moved up through Senator Saxby Chambliss' office into her current position as a Legislative Assistant. Rachel stated, "Most recently, I had the opportunity to directly work on the farm bill to ensure that it serves the people of Georgia and the United States well, and I feel that after a long three year process, we were able to do that. The farm bill provides a safety net for America's farmers and ranchers so that they are able to provide us with the safest, most abundant, and most affordable food supply in the world. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve not only the senior Senator from Georgia, but a former Chairman and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry."

Rachel remarked that she was fortunate to be selected as the CAES Ag Fellow for Senator Chambliss during the summer of 2009, and that three-month internship turned into a job upon her graduation. She added, "The Ag Fellows program is a very unique internship program for students interested in policy, because they have the opportunity to spend a summer in an office where you can delve into the workings of Congress and see firsthand how things get done. While not everyone has an interest in politics, working in a congressional office gives you the chance to see how things in Washington and on Capitol Hill affect all industries and aspects of life."

Rachel offers this advice to current students: "Get involved on campus and get to know CAES alumni. College is what you make it, and if you take the time to get involved, it will open doors for you. Also, there is no better time than now to begin building your network, and CAES has incredible alumni all over the world in all sorts of fields."

In her time away from work, Rachel devotes some of her spare time to the Junior League of Washington, an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. She serves on the Member Recruitment Committee and is responsible for recruiting women from the community to join the New Member class, as well as planning and hosting all recruitment functions.

Alumni News



Swagata “Ban” Banerjee (Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 2004) is an associate professor of agribusiness at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. He is a partner in Ban Brothers Publishing in New York, a songwriter (the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAOP)), a songwriter/producer (AthensMusic.net), and songwriter/performer (Global Horse).

Rodney Brooks (M.S. in agricultural economics in 2003) is a farm loan officer at the United States Department of Agriculture in Albany, Georgia.



Ben Brubaker (BSA in agribusiness in 2010) is the owner of Ben Brubaker Trucking, LLC, a flatbed and bulk commodity trucking company specializing in the movement of granite monuments, nursery products and agricultural goods. He is also a partner at Willowdale Farm.

Nancy S. Dykes (BSA in agricultural economics in 1987 and MS in agricultural economics in 1990) is the operations administrator at the Allman Brothers Band Museum at the Big House in Macon, Georgia.



Ramesh Ghimire (Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 2013) was honored with the 2014 National Wilderness Legacy Award at the National Wilderness Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 15-19, 2014. The conference was organized to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Act. The award was in recognition of Ramesh’s work for the Forest Service. Earlier this year, Dr. Ghimire surveyed federal managers of the National Wilderness Preservation System in the United States and inquired about major threats to the preservation of the Wilderness System, and the need for science-based information and education and training to support managers’ decision making in the future. Based on his survey findings, a 20-year strategic plan to manage the Wilderness System was formulated and signed recently by leaders of the four federal agencies that are responsible for managing the National Wilderness Preservation System in the United States.



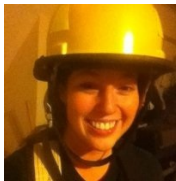
Chase Green (BSA in agribusiness in 2008) is a purchasing product leader for Chick-fil-A in the Atlanta area. He is responsible for developing and managing equipment purchasing, including project coordination, sourcing, negotiation, and supplier relationship management. He develops and manages the sourcing strategy and procurement for equipment and smallwares, identifies secondary sources/suppliers for high risk products, uncovers product cost savings opportunities, negotiates sustainable pricing that contributes to profitability, and leads supply chain efforts to develop and execute plans for international expansion.



Vahe Heboyan (Ph.D. in agricultural economics) is an assistant professor at Georgia Regents University in Augusta, Georgia.



Asa Ornelas (BSA in agricultural & applied in 2007 and MS in agricultural economic in 2011) is a senior strategic marketing analyst at PulteGroup in the Orlando, Florida area.



Allison Brazell-Parr (BSA in agribusiness in 2006) is a senior budget analyst at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia.



Florence Santos (MS in environmental economics in 2010) is a senior research and evaluation specialist at Landesa in Seattle, Washington. She leads and supports project implementation, research, and monitoring and evaluation activities related to rural land tenure.



Matthew Waters (BSA in agribusiness in 2008) is a field services coordinator at the National Onion Labs in Statesboro, Georgia.



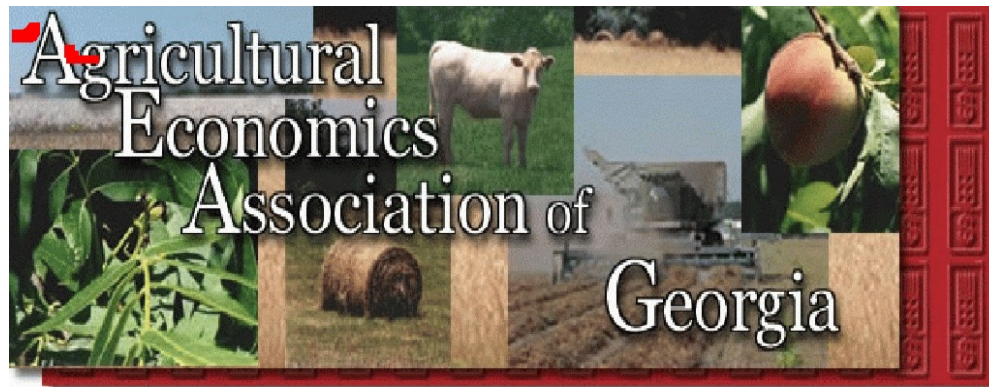
Request for News

We want to hear from you! If any of our alumni, faculty, students, staff, or friends have any news or announcements you would like to share in the newsletter, please notify us. We want to know if you have a new job, if you have moved to a new address, if you have married, if you have welcomed a baby, or any other important events in your lives that you would like to share with the readers of the newsletter. Please email the information to Audrey Cox at aaecnews@uga.edu with the word “news” in the subject line, or mail the information to Audrey Cox, 303 Conner Hall, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA, Athens, GA 30602-7509.

Our Students Need Your Support!



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.



As fellow graduates from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department of The University of Georgia, we invite you to join the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia. The investment is nominal, but the rewards and mission are great. It is our hope that most of you will want to support the organization that promotes our industry and field of education.

The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia (AEAG) was established in 1976.

The goals of the Association 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.

Agricultural economics is involved in all sectors of our economy. The opportunities are greater now than ever before. *We must recruit more students and better support agricultural economists if we are to meet the challenges for further application of agricultural economics to farm, resource, environmental, and agribusiness problems.*

The AEAG board has new goals to support students in agricultural and applied economics as well as high school students who have yet to make decisions about college. We need your support to be able to carry out these goals to assist the future leaders in our field.

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

In addition, AEAG enjoys an active relationship with the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at The University of Georgia. The activities of the association provide occasions for interaction among AEAG members, faculty, and students. This interaction provides students and professionals important opportunities to network for the purpose of future career connections through an AEAG internship program, or simply for the sharing of information and knowledge.

Below you will find an application for membership. Lifetime memberships are also available. If you would like to know more about AEAG, you can visit the AEAG website at www.aeag.uga.edu, like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter (@AEAGGeorgia).

Yes, I would like to join the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia!

Name _____

Employer _____ Title _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Please Check one:

- _____ Student Member - \$10
- _____ Individual Member - \$25
- _____ Library/Institutional Member - \$35
- _____ Corporate Member - \$150

- _____ Individual Lifetime Member - \$250
- _____ Corporate Lifetime Member - \$1000

Please send your membership application and dues to the following address: Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509 (For more information, call 706-542-0763 or visit www.aeag.uga.edu).