



# Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
The University of Georgia

*Alumni Newsletter*

*Fall, 2010*

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## Greetings from the Department Head



Dear Friends:

It is fall again and our plans for the 26<sup>th</sup> annual J.W. Fanning Lecture have been finalized, so please mark you calendars to attend this important departmental function on December 10, 2010. This year, we are very pleased to be hosting another very distinguished speaker: Dr. Mark Partridge, who holds the Swank Chair of Rural-Urban Policy at The Ohio State University. Dr. Partridge will be lecturing on issues related to poverty alleviation in rural Georgia and the U.S. Please see the newsletter for details on registration and times for the lecture and luncheon.

This month's spotlights highlight the extension and research contributions of two senior and highly respected faculty members: Drs. Don Shurley and Lewell Gunter. Dr. Shurley is widely recognized by his peers and within the industry as one of the country's leading authorities in cotton production economics, management, and marketing. Dr. Gunter's research has ranged from developing models to improve production decisions of Georgia farmers to analyzing the impacts of agricultural and trade policies on markets for major Georgia commodities. We are most fortunate to have these two remarkable individuals in our faculty.

We are very proud of our excellent faculty and graduate students. A few have recently been recognized for their outstanding accomplishments. One of our recently hired assistant professors, Dr. Greg Colson, received an honorable mention from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) for the quality of his Ph.D dissertation research. Dr. Cesar Escalante and Florence I. Santos received the Best Paper Award at the International Conference on Business and Information, Amanda Smith received the 2010 Junior Specialist Award from the Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents, and Dr. Curt Lacy was honored with the very prestigious University of Georgia Walter B. Hill Award for Excellence in Extension and Outreach. In addition, our team placed third in the national AAEA Graduate Student Agribusiness Case Study competition. The team members were Wesley Burnett, Douglas Patton, and Clarisse Ferrer and they were advised by Dr. Cesar Escalante. This is the second year in a row that our team placed in one of the top three spots in that competition.

In addition to their substantial instructional and outreach responsibilities, our faculty members and graduate students

continue to be very productive in research and often travel to professional and industry conferences to present and disseminate their results. You can learn more about these activities in the “Who’s Been Where & Why” section of the newsletter and the listing of our recently published works. And if you are a former graduate student we would love to hear from you and learn about what has taken place in your life since obtaining your degree! Please contact Audrey Hudson at [aaecnews@uga.edu](mailto:aaecnews@uga.edu) so that we can follow up with you on your career and life accomplishments.

Also I have some very good news on the undergraduate programs front: we will start offering our agribusiness major in Tifton as of fall 2011. This will allow south Georgia students who are interested in a career in agribusiness to pursue this major in Tifton. The students in this program will receive the same outstanding educational experience that we offer in Athens, which will enable them to pursue rewarding careers in the food and agribusiness industry. In addition, this program will help UGA expand its presence in other areas of the state and benefit rural communities in south Georgia through the retention of local talent to foster their economies.

To finalize, let me note that in this newsletter we have listed all departmental graduates for spring and summer 2010. Congratulations and best wishes to all of them!

Sincerely,  
Octavio A. Ramirez  
Professor and Head

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## **J. W. Fanning Lecture - December 10, 2010**



The 26<sup>th</sup> annual J. W. Fanning Lecture is scheduled for December 10, 2010. This year’s speaker will be Dr. Mark Partridge who will be presenting a lecture titled, “Fighting Poverty One Community at a Time.” Dr. Partridge is the Swank Chair of Rural-Urban Policy at Ohio State University, a Faculty Research Affiliate, City-Region Studies Centre, University of Alberta, and an adjunct professor at the University of Saskatchewan. Professor Partridge is co-editor of the *Journal of Regional Science* and serves on the editorial boards of *Annals of Regional Science*, *Growth and Change*, *The Review of Regional Studies*, and *Region et Developpement*. He has published over 100 scholarly papers and co-authored the book *The Geography of American Poverty: Is there a Role for Place-Based Policy?* Professor Partridge has received research funding from many sources including the Appalachian Regional Commission, Brookings Institution, European Commission, Infrastructure Canada, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. His research includes investigating rural-urban interdependence and regional growth and policy. Dr. Partridge also served as president of the Southern Regional Science Association.

**Mark your calendars for this important event!**  
*(Please see the agenda and registration form on the following page.)*

**Agenda for J.W. Fanning Events - December 10, 2010**

All events will take place at the Georgia Center.

8:30 a.m. - **Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia Board Meeting** - Craig Board Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

10:00 a.m. - **Registration & Refreshments** - Kellogg Concourse (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

10:30 a.m. - **J.W. Fanning Lecture** - Room K/L (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**Welcome** - Dean Scott Angle, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**Introduction of Speaker** - Octavio Ramirez, Head and Professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA

**Lecture** - Dr. Mark Partridge - “Fighting Poverty One Community at a Time”

**Luncheon - 12:00 noon - Magnolia Ballroom**

**Presentation of J.W. Fanning Professional Awards**  
**(Craig Scroggs, President of Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia)**

**1:30 p.m. - Adjourn**

**The cost of this year’s luncheon is \$30. There is no cost for attending the lecture only. (Please register for the luncheon no later than December 3, 2010. See the registration form below.)**

**2010 J. W. FANNING LECTURE & LUNCHEON REGISTRATION**

REGISTRATION: Lecture attendance is free. A registration fee of \$30 is required for the luncheon. Please register no later than December 3, 2010 for the luncheon. Make check payable to the *Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia* and return with this form.

I plan to attend the lecture \_\_\_\_ ( )      I plan to attend the lecture and luncheon \_\_\_\_ ( )

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return all forms to the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 303 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509. You may call Audrey Hudson at 706-542-0763 or Jo Anne Norris 706-542-2481 and confirm your reservation.**

## Student News

### Attention Former Graduate Students!



We would like to keep up with our graduate students. Please email us with your most recent news. We would like to know what has taken place in your life since obtaining your degree. Please send us an email and include information about where you are working, recent moves, marriages, births of children, addresses, and email addresses. Also, if there is something you want to share in the newsletter, please let us know. You may email your information to Audrey Hudson at [aaecnews@uga.edu](mailto:aaecnews@uga.edu) or mail the information to Audrey Hudson, 303 Conner Hall, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA, Athens, GA 30602.

### Graduate Student News

A team from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics placed third in the national Agricultural and Applied Economics Association's Agribusiness Case Study competition. The team members were **Wesley Burnett, Douglas Patton, and Clarisse Ferrer** and they were advised by **Dr. Cesar Escalante**. This is the second year in a row that our team placed in one of the top three spots, which is a testament to the quality of our graduate students and programs. Congratulations, Wesley, Douglas, and Clarisse!

Listed below are the new officers of the Graduate Student Association.

President	<b>Veronica Yoo</b>
Vice President	<b>Anand Nambiar</b>
Treasurer	<b>Anna Sheremenko</b>

### Graduate Student Enrollment for Fall 2010:

Agricultural and Applied Economics	M.S.20
Environmental Economics	M.S. 9
Agricultural and Applied Economics	Ph.D18
Agricultural Economics	Ph.D. 1

### Undergraduate Student News

#### Undergraduate Enrollment for Fall 2010:

<u>Major</u>	<u>Enrolled</u>
Agricultural and Applied Economics	37
Agricultural Economics	1
Agribusiness	120
Agribusiness (Griffin)	1
Environmental Economics and Management	108
Food Industry Marketing and Administration	4

#### Current Officers of the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club:

President: **Andrew Stevenson**  
 Executive Officers: **Katie Williams, Libby Caner, and Gena Perry**

The Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club has hosted some interesting speakers during their meetings this semester. The speakers are listed below.

- October 6 - Tim Miller, manager, AGCO Academy, AGCO Corporation
- October 13 - Aynsley Folkard (safety coordinator), David Ivey (grain terminal operations), and Tez Saffold (grain terminal operations), Archer Daniels Midland Corporation.
- October 27 - Jim Hodges, vice president, AgGeorgia Farm Credit

On December 1, Eddie Kinnard, vice president of Insurance Services, Georgia Agribusiness Council, Inc. is scheduled to speak at the meeting.

**2010 Departmental Graduates**

**Summer 2010 Graduates (Undergraduate Students)**

Name	Degree	Major
Matthew Golden Casto	BSA	AGB
John Spencer Ford	BSA	AGB
David Richard Ivey-Lanford	BSA	AGB
Corey Jerome Oakes	BSA	AGB
Jake Wade Sponberger	BSA	AGB
Matthew Warren Gaw	BSA	EEM
Matthew Douglas Twyne	BSES	EEM
Brazzle Augusta Young III	BSA	AAE

**Summer 2010 Graduates (Graduate Students)**

Padmanand Madhavan Nambiar	MS	AAE
Doris Nekesa Sande	Ph.D.	AAE
Florence Ivy Mamburam Santos	MS	EEcon.
Kavita Sardana	Ph.D.	AAE
Oleksiy Tokovenko	Ph.D.	AAE

**Spring 2010 Graduates (Undergraduate Students)**

William Mark Allen, Jr.	BSA	AGB
Taylor Morris Brady	BSA	AGB
Benjamin Dale Brubaker	BSA	AGB
Christy Nicole Bryan	BSA	AGB
Katie Kristin Carter	BSES	EEM
Hattie Matty Stierlen Clark	BSA	AAE
Christopher Davis Crisler	BSES	EEM
Alexander Randolph Daley	BSES	EEM
Ashley Suzanne Dronenburg	BSES	EEM
Haley Marie Engelberth	BSES	EEM
Jonathan David Erickson	BSES	EEM
Robert Justin Franklin	BSA	AGB
Eric N. Friedman	BSES	EEM
Claude Samuel Fuller	BSES	EEM
Brandon Mitchell Lamar		
Giddens	BSA	AGB
James Reynolds Goodhand	BSES	EEM
Joshua Randall Jackson	BSES	EEM
Rebecca Teal Jordan	BSES	EEM
Dmitry Paladino Lima	BSA	AGB
Nicholas Lawrence Martin	BSA	AAE
Rachel Elizabeth McLocklin	BSA	AAE
Beth Linnea Nielsen	BSES	EEM
Patrick Cade Patterson	BSA	AGB
Matthew Kyle Shepherd	BSA	AGB
Paul Harris Sparrow	BSA	AGB
Kathryn D. Thomason	BSA	AGB
Tyler Merritt Tidwell	BSA	AGB
Michael David Watts	BSA	AGB
Jake Austin Willcox	BSA	AGB
Christopher Neil Wilson	BSES	EEM
Thomas Liddell Xanders	BSES	EEM

**Spring 2010 Graduates (Graduate Students)**

Mohammed Zakaria Alhassan	MS	EEcon.
Myung Duck Park	Ph.D	AAE

## Faculty Spotlight



**Dr. Don Shurley**



Professor Don Shurley, located at the UGA Tifton Campus, has been a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics for 20 years. He is a native of Macon, Georgia and returned to Georgia in 1990 after 10 years on the faculty of the University of Kentucky. Dr. Shurley received a B.S. in economics from Georgia Southern College in 1975, an M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Georgia in 1977, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University in 1980.

He is widely recognized by his peers and within the industry as one of the country's leading authorities on cotton. Cotton is Georgia's number one row crop, with 1.33 million acres planted in 2010. Georgia is number two in the United States in cotton acreage and production. Dr. Shurley is an accomplished researcher and educator, a prolific author, and sought out by producers and industry as an invited speaker. He is also a member of the UGA Cotton Team, which is recognized by many as the best multi-disciplinary group of cotton scientists in the country. He is active in collaborative educational programs and multi-disciplinary research and has provided vital analysis and insight to state and national legislators and industry leadership.

Dr. Shurley has a 75% extension, 10% research, and 15% teaching appointment. He also serves as the department extension coordinator. His extension and research responsibilities and expertise include cotton price analysis and outlook, cotton marketing and risk management, cotton production economics and budgeting, farm policy (cotton program), evaluation of pest management strategies, and fiber quality and ginning economics. He writes a bi-weekly newsletter, *Cotton Marketing News*, for Southern Cotton Growers, which has a nationwide distribution to producers, merchants, industry, and media.

At the Tifton campus and via distance education to the Athens campus, Dr. Shurley teaches AAEC 3010, Farm Management and Organization. He is the 2008 Tifton Campus Award for Excellence in Teaching winner. He is also a recipient of the 2003 D.W. Brooks Award for Excellence in Extension, the 2005 Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Extension Award, and the 2010 Walter B. Hill Award for Distinguished Service in Public Service and Outreach.

Dr. Shurley is married and has two sons, Matt and Justin (daughter-in-law, Brook and granddaughter, Autumn). He enjoys hunting, traveling, vacationing at the beach, spending time with his family, and is an avid fan of the Atlanta Braves, UGA football, and University of Kentucky basketball. His wife, Joy, is an assistant professor of mathematics at ABAC in Tifton.

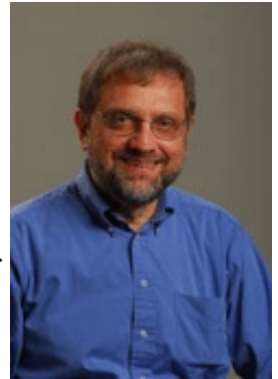
## Research Spotlight



**Dr. Lewell Gunter**

Freer trade provides new opportunities for U.S. and Georgia producers by opening markets for their products and new challenges for these producers due to increased competition from producers around the world. The importance of agricultural trade has continued to grow in recent years as the average value of Georgia's agricultural exports increased from about one billion dollars a year in the first 5 years of the new century to over \$1.5 billion a year in the following 5 years.

The increased importance of trade has led to increased interest in the competitiveness of Georgia producers, but competitiveness is more complex than it may first seem. The ability of Georgia producers to deliver a quality product at a competitive price to the market starts with the location, land, climate, and other natural resources associated with producing in Georgia. However, competitiveness is also impacted by the entire supply and demand chains for agricultural inputs and outputs, by technology, by transportation costs, and by domestic and foreign agricultural and trade policies. The long list of factors that affect competitiveness provides a long list of potential topics for competitiveness research.



Over the years, Dr. Gunter's research has covered a variety of competitiveness topics, ranging from constructing models to improve production decisions of Georgia farmers to developing methods to analyze the impacts of agricultural and trade policies on markets for major Georgia commodities. Cotton and poultry are by far the most valuable agricultural exports from Georgia, with recent export values of between 500 and 600 million dollars per year for each commodity.

Cotton markets have experienced several significant changes in recent years including the closing of many mills in the southeastern U.S. as textile production moved offshore in pursuit of cheaper labor. Dr. Gunter and his student, Ya Wu, focused on the time period when most of the market for U.S. cotton moved offshore to examine the effects of this change on the regional and seasonal cotton basis in the southeast and on changes in quality discounts and premiums for U.S. cotton.

Although Georgia lost a locational advantage when the southeastern textile mills closed, the proximity of Georgia growers to the port of Savannah allowed them to maintain a strong regional basis as exports increased in importance.

Total U.S. cotton exports increased from 20.7 million bales for the 3 years from 1996-1999 to 45 million bales during 2004-2006, while cotton exports from the port of Savannah increased from 277 thousand bales in the first period to 6.6 million bales in the latter period. China was the largest export market for US cotton during the 2004-2006 period with purchases of 17.4 million bales, and Savannah was the second largest U.S. port shipping cotton to China with exports of 2.95 million bales.

Price premiums and discounts for nine quality attributes of cotton were also analyzed for impacts associated with the switch from a majority domestic market to a majority export market for U.S. cotton. The strongest change in quality premiums over the period from 1996 to 2005 were for cotton with a combination of longer staple length and higher quality color ratings. Price premiums for staple lengths 36 and 37 combined with one of the top three color ratings increased from about two cents per pound to almost seven cents per pound. Premiums and discounts for other quality characteristics changed little as the market became more export oriented.

Research by Dr. Gunter and his students, Xiaofei Li and Li Zhang, on U.S. poultry exports focused more on the policy aspects of competitiveness. International poultry markets are frequently impacted by governments of importing countries. These policies range from temporary import bans based on health concerns to the imposition of new tariffs or quotas justified by complaints of harm to domestic poultry producers or claims of unfair trade practices. As a result of NAFTA, Mexican tariffs on U.S. poultry imports were phased out, falling from a 250% tariff in 1994 to a planned rate of zero percent in 2003. Before the tariff was completely eliminated however, the Mexican government negotiated with the U.S. government to allow the imposition of a new tariff starting at 100% for imports in excess of 100,000 tons in 2004 with a phase-out to be completed in 2008. Analysis of these policies indicated that a 10 percentage point decrease in the tariff rate increased the price of U.S. frozen leg quarter exports to Mexico by about seven cents per pound, but a comparable tariff change increased the price of other frozen chicken parts by only about a penny a pound. Similar research is currently underway to estimate the impact of the new Chinese tariffs on U.S. chicken exports. Preliminary estimates again indicate large differences in the impact of the tariffs on U.S. export prices for different chicken parts.

## **Faculty News**

### **Faculty Awards and Recognitions**

**Drs. Glenn Ames** (co P.I.), Cheryl Fields-Smith, **Jeffery Jordan**, and Alexander Cuenca received a grant on the Scholarship of Engagement proposal entitled, “Griffin to Athens: Career Awareness and Aspirations for Middle School Students in Underserved Communities” from the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach in October.





**Drs. John C. Bergstrom** and Alan Randall co-authored the new book, “Resource Economics: An Economic Approach to Natural Resource and Environmental Policy, Third Edition.” The book is published by Edward Edgar Publishing and was released in September 2010. The book provides an advanced undergraduate student or beginning graduate student, an overview of natural resource and environmental economics concepts with policy and management applications. In addition to students and their instructors, public and private decision-makers will find information and analyses in the book of interest and value for helping to address and solve contemporary problems and issues related to managing natural resources and the environment for alternative, often competing uses.



**Dr. Greg Colson** received an honorable mention from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association for the outstanding quality of his Ph.D. dissertation research at Iowa State University. Congratulations, Dr. Colson!



**Dr. Cesar Escalante** and **Florence I. Santos** received the Best Paper Award at the International Conference on Business and Information in Kitakyushu, Japan in July. Their paper was titled “The Farm Labor Hiring Predicament of Organic and Conventional Farm Operators in the Southeast.” Congratulations, Dr. Escalante and Florence!



**Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah**, Peter C. Anderson, UF (P.I.), David L. Wright, Russell F. Mizell III, James J. Marois, Steve M. Olson, Danielle Treadwell, Ann Blount, Cheryl Mackowiak, Joseph Funderburk, Jimmy Rich, Vonda Richardson (FAMU), and George Boyhan (UGA) were awarded \$624,148.40 from the USDA NIFA AFRI competitive grant entitled, “Environmental and Economic Costs of Transitioning to Organic Production Via a Sod-Based Rotation and Strip Tilling in the Southern Coastal Plain” ( 2010-2014). Dr. Fonsah’s share is \$98,717.19.

**Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah** has just returned from a three-week visit to Ghana, West Africa where he worked with ACDI/VOCA as a production and marketing consultant for Awurade Na Aye Co-operative Vegetable Growers & Marketing Society Limited. ACDI/VOCA’s objective and commitment for the Awurade Na Aye Co-operative

is to provide technical assistance in the form of a commodity marketing consultant experienced in market research, market development, market maintenance, and results-oriented commodity marketing to train and design a two year workable marketing strategic plan for the cooperative. This is an association of vegetable farmers that grows tomatoes, eggplants, and green pepper. Dr. Fonsah used this opportunity to determine if Ghana and other West African countries may be potential target markets for Georgia fruits and vegetable growers since the existing ones are already saturated.

Dr. Fonsah visited with Dr. Ramatu M. Al-Hassan, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Ghana, Legon. He also visited with Dr. Simon Cudjoe Fialor, Senior Lecturer and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, and Extension, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. During their discussions, the issue of collaboration came out very strongly, and they would like to follow up and initiate a process that would lead to a full collaboration between departments including staff, students exchange, and research collaboration with faculty and CAES.



**(Right) Dr. Fonsah presenting to ACDI/VOCA executives and staff in Accra, Ghana**

**(Left) Dr. Fonsah's vegetable production and marketing workshop with Awurade Na Eye Co-op farmers, Derma, Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana**



Dr. Fonsah also attended and presented his banana research at the Bamboo Farm and Coastal Gardens Fall Festival in Savannah, Georgia where there were over 5,000 attendees in October.



**Dr. Fonsah's banana research presentation at the Fall Festival, Bamboo Farm & Coastal Gardens, Savannah, Georgia in October.**





**Dr. Curt Lacy** is the winner of the prestigious Walter B. Hill Award for Excellence in Extension and Outreach. Congratulations, Dr. Lacy!

**Drs. Curt Lacy, Charlie Huang,** and Kent Wolfe are part of a team who were awarded a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service to advance and improve the agricultural marketing system. The \$63,275 grant will be used to examine the market for locally-produced beef in the southeastern United States, determine consumers' willingness to pay for various product attributes to help the region's retailers/food service operators better estimate consumer price-point, and help producers implement appropriate production strategies.



**Amanda Smith** is the winner of the 2010 Junior Specialist Award from the Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents. Congratulations, Amanda!

## **Who's Been Where and Why**

### *Travel and Presentations*



**Dr. Glenn Ames** traveled to Shanghai, China in October to present a paper titled, "U.S. China Trade Environment and Issues Impacting International Agribusiness Trade" at the mini-summit, Food Safety

and Trade Initiative which was held at the Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences (SAAS).

**Dr. John Bergstrom** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and to meet with research collaborators. He also traveled to Cambridge, MD in August to meet with U.S. Fish and Wildlife research grant cooperators to discuss a current project. In September, he traveled to Arrowwood, North Dakota to attend a required U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service research grant project site-visit and meeting.

**Wesley Burnett** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a selected poster that he co-authored titled "Dynamic Optimization of Nitrogen Use in Agriculture." He also participated in the Graduate Student Case Study Competition and was part of a team that presented a case titled, "The Expansion of Shepherd's Grain Brand."

**Ruohong Cai** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a poster titled, "Crop Price Volatility Impacts on Farmers Cropping Patterns: A Dynamic Optimal Crop Rotation Model."

**Professor Terry Centner** traveled to Omaha, Nebraska in October to chair a session at the American Agricultural Law Association Conference and presented a paper titled, "CAFO Issues in the Courts and the EPA." He also traveled to Champaign,

Illinois in September to present a paper titled, "Developing Institutions to Augment Environmental Practices for Biomass Production: Looking at Animals" at EBI's Strategic Directions in Social, Legal, and Environmental Dimensions of Research on Biofuels Workshop.

**Dr. Gregory Colson** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented two selected papers titled, "Estimates of the Welfare Impact of Intragenic and Transgenic GM Labeling Policies" and "Multiple Receptor Ambient Monitoring and Firm Compliance with Environmental Taxes under Budget and Target Driven Regulatory Emissions." He also participated in an invited discussion titled "Methodological Developments and Issues in Experimental Auctions."

**Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented an invited paper titled, "Econometrics Developments in Agricultural and Resource Economics."

**Dr. James Epperson** traveled to Sandestin, Florida in October to present a research report at the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference titled, "The Potential for Supply Management of Southeastern Sweet Onions Revisited," which was co-authored by Dr. H. Luo and Dr. Epperson.

**Dr. Cesar Escalante** traveled to Kitakyushu, Japan in July to attend the International Conference on Business and Information and presented a paper

titled, "The Farm Labor Hiring Predicament of Organic and Conventional Farms in the Southeast." He also traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and was co-author of a selected paper titled, "The Relative Cost Efficiencies of Commercial Banks, Rural Financial Institutions, and Microfinance Institutions in China" and two posters titled, "Foreign Workers and the Organic Farms' Demand for Seasonal Unskilled Labor" and "Differentiation in Farm Labor Complement Profiles of Organic and Conventional Farms in the Southeast."

**Dr. Susana Ferreira** traveled to Montreal, Canada in June and July to attend the Fourth World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists and presented a paper titled, "Comprehensive Wealth and its Components: Explaining Intangible Capital."

**Myra Clarisse Ferrer** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a selected paper that she co-authored titled, "Dynamic Optimization of Nitrogen Use in Agriculture." She also participated in the Graduate Student Case Study Competition. The departmental team won third place in the competition.

**Dr. Stanley Fletcher** traveled to Panama City, Florida in July to participate in the 2010 Southern Peanut Growers Conference. He also traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings. He traveled to Nashville, North Carolina in September to participate in the 2010 North Carolina Peanut Field Day and presented a talk at the North Carolina Peanut Growers Association annual meeting. He also traveled

to North Carolina in October to meet with the North Carolina Fed-State Inspection Service, Rocky Mount/Windsor/Raleigh, North Carolina. Dr. Fletcher traveled to Lubbock, Texas in November to attend the Peanut Grading Meetings.

**Dr. Wojciech Florkowski** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings. He also traveled to Libon, Portugal in August to attend the 28<sup>th</sup> International Horticultural Congress, 2010 and present a poster titled, "Household Characteristics and Weekly Expenditures on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables." The poster was co-authored by **Padmanand Madhavan Nambiar**, Dr. Florkowski, and Dong-Kyun Suh.

**Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah** traveled to Ghana, West Africa and stayed three weeks in August and September and presented papers: one titled "Strategic Business Plan for Awurade Na Aye Coop Vegetable Growers and Marketing Society Limited" at the ACDI/VOCA Country Office Conference Hall; one titled "Agricultural Extension Education Workshop" at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) at Bechem, Brong Ahafo Region; one titled "Vegetable Strategic Market Development and Planning Workshop" at the Awurade Na Aye Co-Op Vegetable Growers and Marketing Society Limited at Derma, Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana; and one titled "Tomato, Sweet Pepper, and Eggplant Production and Marketing Workshop for Awurade Coop Executives" at Derma, Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana. Dr. Fonsah also traveled to Sandestin, Florida in October to attend the board of directors meeting of the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference and presented two research reports, "Performance of 'Veinte Cohol': A Short

Cycle Banana Cultivar Trial in the South Coastal Plain of Georgia" which was co-authored by Dr. Will Hudson, Paul Sumner, and Julien Massonnat, and "Economic Analysis of Blueberry Production in Georgia Using Enterprise Budgets," which was co-authored by Dr. Fonsah, Dr. Gerard Krewer, John E. Smith, and Danny Stannaland. In addition, he attended the S-1050 meeting, and served as a moderator of the Produce, Fruits, and Vegetables session.

**Dr. Charlie Huang** traveled to Sandestin, Florida in October to attend the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference and presented a paper titled, "Demand for Healthy and Unhealthy Food: Implications on Obesity" at a special symposium.

**Dr. Jack Houston** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a selected paper titled, "A Source-Differentiated Analysis of Tropical Fresh Fruit Imports." He also traveled to Sandestin, Florida in October to host Mali visitors and present a paper at the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference. The paper was titled, "U.S. Demand for Fresh Tropical Fruit and Vegetable Imports," which was co-authored by Dr. Kilungu Nzaku and **Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah**

**Keith Kightlinger** traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana to participate in the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation's Editorial Review of the 2010 National Income Tax Workbook.

**Dr. Genti Kostandini** traveled to St. Paul, Minnesota in October to attend a research collaboration meeting and present an invited lecture at the graduate applied economics class at the University of Minnesota.

**Dr. Warren Kriesel** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings.

**Dr. Curt Lacy** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend a Livestock Marketing Information Center's Technical Advisory Committee meeting. He also traveled to Kansas City, Kansas in October to attend the LEAD21 Class Conference.

**Shanshan Lin** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a selected paper titled, "Dynamic Optimization of Area Revenue Insurance and Consumption Smoothing."

**Allen McCorvey** traveled to Panama City, Florida in July to attend the Southern Peanut Growers Conference and to meet with U.S. Representative Peanut Farm Panels.

**Rebati Mendali** traveled to Sandestin, Florida to attend the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference and presented a poster titled, "The Political Economy of GM Food Regulation in LDCs: Adoption or Rejection?" which was co-authored by **Drs. Glenn Ames and Lewell Gunter**.

**Rebecca Moore** traveled to Cambridge, Maryland in August to meet with U.S. Fish and Wildlife research grant cooperators to discuss a current project. She also traveled to Greenville, North Carolina in November to attend the Cooperative Ecosystem Study Unit annual meeting.

**Dr. Jeffrey Mullen** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and presented a selected paper titled, "Dynamic Optimization of Area Revenue Insurance and Consumption Smoothing" which was co-authored by **Shanshan Lin, Jeffrey D. Mullen, and Michael Wetzstein**.

**Padmanand Madhavan Namiar, Dr. Wojciech J. Florkowski, Dr. Dong-Kyn Suh, and Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim** co-authored a poster titled, "Food-Away-From-Home Expenditure in the Republic of Korea" which was presented by Dr. Ibrahim at the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference in Sandestin, Florida in October.

**Drs. Timothy Park and Luanne Lohr** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and present a poster titled, "The Influence of Local Selling Decisions on Organic Farm Incomes."

**Douglas Patton** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and participated in the Graduate Student Case Study Competition. He also traveled to Cambridge, Maryland in August to meet with U.S. Fish and Wildlife research grant cooperators to discuss a current project.



**Dr. Octavio Ramirez** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings, to represent the department, and to present a poster co-authored with Dr. Jeff Dorfman titled, "Improving Forecast Performance with Reduced Parameter, Large Order AR Models." He made an invited presentation to the National Agricultural Economics Administrators Section titled "The Future of Agricultural Economics Departments: Are We Destined to be Merged?" (Paper is posted in AgEcon Search <http://agecon.lib.umn.edu/>.) He also traveled to Clemson, South Carolina in September to conduct forecasting research.

**Florence Santos** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and present a selected paper.

**Amanda Smith** traveled to Clearwater Beach, Florida to participate in the American Peanut Research and Education Society's annual meeting. She presented a paper titled, "Investment Analysis of Conventional vs Conservation Tillage Equipment for Peanuts" which was co-authored with Dr. Nathan Smith. The paper was nominated for the APRES Wallace K. Bailey Award.

**Dr. Nathan Smith** traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in a Farm Bill Steering Committee meeting of the Multi-State Public Policy Issues Education Committee (SERA 39) and the Southern Region Trade Committee (S-1043).

**Dr. Forrest Stegelin** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and present a selected paper titled, "A Transportation Alliance of Environmental Horticulture Producers in Georgia: Issues and Feasibility." The poster was co-authored by Drs. Forrest Stegelin, Javier Mantilla, **Jack Houston**, Paul Thomas, and Matthew Chappell. He also traveled to Sandestin, Florida in October to attend a board of directors meeting and present two research updates at the Food Distribution Research Society annual conference. The updates were titled, "Using a Transportation Alliance to Solve Distribution Issues for Buying Local" and "Comparing Second Generation GE Crops to First Generation GE Crops."

**Dr. Michael Wetzstein** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and made a presentation at the meeting titled, "How to Give a Presentation: Teaching." In addition, he traveled to Columbia, South Carolina in July to attend an National Institute of Food and Agriculture meeting.

**Huiting Wu** traveled to Switzerland to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> St. Gallen Symposium. Her essay titled, "Have Thy Cloak Made When it Begins to Rain - Enterprises' Response to Copenhagen Stalemate" was selected by the International Student Committee for this event.

**Ya Wu** traveled to Denver, Colorado in July to attend the 2010 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meetings and present a paper

titled, “The Relative Cost Efficiency of Commercial Banks, Rural Financial Institutions, and Microfinance Institutions in China.” The paper was co-authored with **Drs. Cesar Escalante** and **L.F. Gunter**. She also presented a poster titled, “Foreign Workers and the Organic Farms’ Demand,” co-authored with **Dr. Cesar Escalante, S.L. Perkins**, and C.E. Neely.

**Drs. James Epperson, Greg Fonsah, and Jack Houston** served as moderators for selected sessions at the Food Distribution Research Society annual meetings. **Dr. Forest Stegelin** is the vice president of Applied Research for the Food Distribution Research Society and was responsible for assembling and coordinating the program of research reports and updates.



## Publications:

Artz, G., **G. Colson**, and R. Ginder. (2010) “A Return of the Threshing Ring: A Case Study of Machinery and Labor-Sharing in Midwestern Farms.” *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 42(4):805-819.

Carew, Richard and **Wojciech J. Florkowski**. (2010) “Productivity and Business R&D: A Study of Canadian Food Manufacturing Industries, 1994-2005.” *British Food Journal*, 112(7).

**Centner, T.J.** (2010) “Nutrient Pollution from the Land Applications of Manure: Discerning a Remedy for Pollution.” *Stanford Law and Policy Review*, 21(2):213-243.

**Escalante, C.L.** (2010) “Georgia Farmland Values in 2010.” Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, AGECON 10-004.

**Escalante, C.L.** (2010) “Cash Rents Paid for Georgia Farmland in 2010.” Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia. AGECON 10-004.

**Escalante, C.L.** (2010) “Georgia Farmland Values in 2010.” Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, AGECON 10-005.

**Ferreira, Susana** and Jeffrey R. Vincent. (2010) “Governance and Timber Harvests.” *Environmental Resource Economics*, 47 (2):241-260.

**Fonsah, E.G.**, B. Borgotte, P. Ji, P. Sumner, and W.G. Hudson. (2010) “New Banana Cultivars Trial in the Coastal Plain of South Georgia.” *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, 41(1):46-50.

**Fonsah, E.G.** and J. Massonnat. (2010) “Strategic Marketing Plan: Awurade Na Aye Co-Operative Vegetable Growers and Marketing Society Ltd., Derma, Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana, West Africa, ACIDI/VOCA.” Washington, D.C. and The University of Georgia, 47 pages.

Jacobsen, K.L., **C.L. Escalante**, and C.F. Jordan. (2010) “Economic Analysis of Experimental Organic Agricultural Systems on a Highly Eroded Soil of the Georgia Piedmont, USA.” *Journal of Renewable Agriculture and Food Systems*, 25 (04):296-308.



Patel, P. and **T.J. Centner**. (2010) "Air Pollution by Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations." *Desalination and Water Treatment*, 19:12-16.

**Santos, F.I. and C.L. Escalante**. (2010) "Farm Labor Management Decisions of Organic and Conventional Farms: A Survey of Southeastern Farm Businesses." Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, AGECON 10-001.

**Santos, F.I. and C.L. Escalante**. (2010) "Farmers' Business Expectations and Strategies under Immigration-Related Changes in Farm Labor Market Conditions: A Survey of Southeastern Organic and Conventional Farm Businesses." Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, AGECON 10-002.

**Shurley, Don**. (2010) "Cotton Situation and Outlook: Prices Should Remain Attractive for the 2011 Crop." Invited report prepared for Ag First Farm Credit Bank, Columbia, SC.

**Shurley, W. Don**, A. Stanley Culpepper, Phillip M. Roberts, and **Amanda R. Smith**. (2010) "Economic Evolution of Weed Control Costs and Seed Technologies in Georgia Cotton." Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, AGECON-10-003.

Torell, L.A., S. Murugan, and **O.A. Ramirez**. (2010) "Economics of Flexible Versus Conservative Stocking Strategies to Manage Climate Variability Risk." *Rangeland Ecology and Management*, 63 (4):415-425.



## **Alumni News**

**Swagata Banerjee** (Ph.D. in 2004) is an assistant professor, undergraduate coordinator, and faculty senator (alternate) in the Department of Agribusiness, School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Alabama A&M University.

**Glenn R. Bosshardt** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1979) is vice president of Wachovia Insurance Services, Inc. in Greenville, South Carolina.

**Michael Jason Kinsaul** (B.S.A. in agribusiness in 2009) is a relationship analyst with Rabo Agrifinance.

**Emily Kubala Thomas** (B.S.A. in environmental economics and management in 2005) is a sustainability analyst with Arch Chemicals, Inc. She oversees their world-wide corporate sustainability program. Emily was married to Brandon Thomas of Milton, Florida on April 24, 2010 in Atlanta.



## 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 had 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 Hudson at [aaecnews@uga.edu](mailto:aaecnews@uga.edu) with the word "news" in the subject line, or mail the information to Audrey Hudson, 303 Conner Hall, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA, Athens, GA 30602-7509.

## *Journal of Agribusiness*

The new editors of the *Journal of Agribusiness*, James E. Epperson and Cesar L. Escalante, would like to encourage all people interested in submitting articles to the *Journal* to do so. The *Journal* will publish papers and case studies on a wide range of topics including all areas of agribusiness, economic development, and environmental issues related to agriculture, and general empirical research within the broad range of agricultural economics.

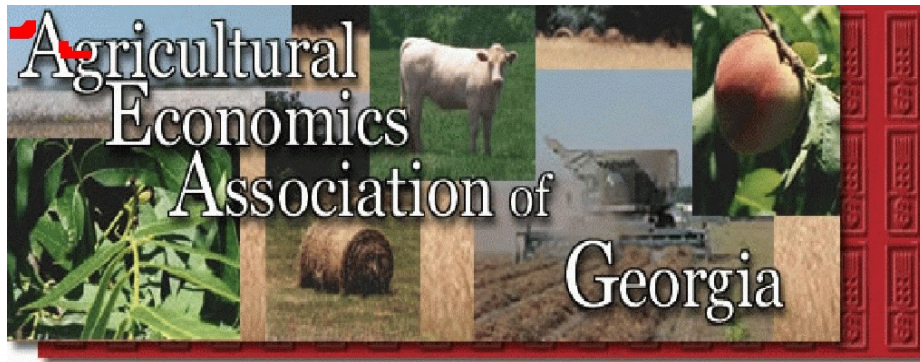
Manuscripts undergo strict, double-blind peer review and the editors will strive to make the editorial process move as rapidly as possible. The *Journal* is particularly interested in publishing papers that will appeal to academic researchers, government agencies, and people working in agribusiness. Please send your manuscripts and other editorial communications to [JABEdit@uga.edu](mailto:JABEdit@uga.edu).

## 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) or the Stephen J. Brannen Student Leadership Fund, please make checks payable to the Arch Foundation. To support the 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. Mail all checks to 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
- ★ AEAG newsletter
- ★ Enhanced educational opportunities for students in agricultural economics
- ★ J.W. Fanning Lecture
- ★ Recognition for career accomplishments

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 and 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, visit the AEAG website at [www.aeag.uga.edu](http://www.aeag.uga.edu). *(Please see the registration form below.)*

**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, Georgia 30602-7509**

**For more information, call 706-542-0763 or visit [www.aeag.uga.edu](http://www.aeag.uga.edu)**