



Greetings from the Department Head

Dear Friends:



It is spring and that means we will soon be having our 10th annual Conner Connects banquet. You are cordially invited to attend this event on April 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the State Botanical Gardens in Athens. This is a great opportunity to meet many of our outstanding undergraduate and graduate students and to visit with other alumni and faculty members. Please contact Ms. Audrey Hudson (ahl@uga.edu) if you would like to attend this event or use the registration form included in the newsletter.

Another spring tradition is the department's annual Rod Ziemer Lecture. Our Graduate Student Association will be hosting this lecture on April 8, 2011 at 11:30 am in 104 Conner Hall. The speaker will be Dr. Catherine Kling, a distinguished professor of natural resource economics and division head of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), at Iowa State University of Iowa State University, who will be presenting on the topic "Economic Incentives to Improve Water Quality in Agricultural Landscapes: Using Abatement Actions and Evolutionary Algorithms to Support Policy Design." Alumni, students, and faculty are also welcome to attend this event.

On the student news front, I would like to report that our undergraduate Academic Quiz Bowl Team comprised of Jennie Allison, Zeke Bryant, Philip Klayman, Gena Perry, Nicholas Pisarello, and Travis Voyles competed this February at the annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association in Corpus Christi, Texas. This was in preparation for their participation in the national competition which will be held this summer at the annual meetings of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

And please be sure to read our *Spotlight* features in this issue of the newsletter! Our Graduate Student Spotlight is Wesley Burnett who will soon be completing his Ph.D. program. The Faculty Spotlight features Dr. Stanley Fletcher who will be retiring from the university in the near future after an impressive career that has spanned three decades. The scholarly work of Dr. John Bergstrom is showcased in our Research Spotlight. Dr. Bergstrom was named the first Richard B. Russell Distinguished Professor of Public Policy in May 2005. Our Alumni Spotlight features Dr. Steven Turner, who is currently a professor and the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University. Dr. Turner is also the recipient of the 2011 Southern Agricultural Economics Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

In regard to faculty news, I would like to offer warm congratulations to Amanda Smith who has been promoted to the position of public service associate. Amanda has also been accepted as a participant in the 2011 Class of the Extension Academy for Professional Excellence. And as always, in this issue of our Newsletter, you will find details about the recent accomplishments of our students and faculty members. It is a pleasure to share their achievements with you on a regular basis.

Sincerely,

Dr. Octavio A. Ramirez,
Professor and Head

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Conner Connects Banquet-2011



The members of the Agricultural & Environmental Economics Club and the AAEC Graduate Student Association cordially invite you to join us for our 10th annual Conner Connects banquet.

Tuesday, April 26, 2011
7:00 p.m.

State Botanical Gardens of Georgia Visitors Center
Athens, GA

Cost is \$12 for current students and \$25 for non-students. Please RSVP by April 19. If you have questions regarding the banquet, please call 706-542-2481 or email ah1@uga.edu.



CONNER CONNECTS REGISTRATION

(Due April 14)

____ Student Tickets (\$12 each) \$ _____

____ Non-student Tickets (\$25 each) \$ _____

Donation to help defray department's contribution for student tickets \$ _____

Guests' Names:

Make checks payable to Arch Foundation.
Mail to: ConnerConnects Registration, 303 Conner Hall,
University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509
Email: ah1@uga.edu
Call: 706-542-2481



The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia invites you to participate in a golf outing with alumni, faculty, and friends of ag & applied economics on Tuesday afternoon, April 26, prior to Conner Connects, at a local Athens golf course. If you desire to join us for this event, please check this box and return this page to Audrey Hudson at ah1@uga.edu. Details will follow, if there is enough interest.

Annual Rod Ziemer Lecture – April 8, 2011

The Agricultural and Applied Economics Graduate Student Association, will host the annual Rod Ziemer Lecture on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. in 104 Conner Hall (auditorium). Faculty, students, and staff are invited to attend.



The speaker at this year's event will be Dr. Catherine Kling, a distinguished professor of natural resource economics and division head of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) at Iowa State University. Dr. Kling will be presenting on her project titled “Economic Incentives to Improve Water Quality in Agricultural Landscapes: Using Abatement Actions and Evolutionary Algorithms to Support Policy Design.”

By previous RSVP, graduate students are invited to have lunch with Dr. Kling in 310 Conner Hall immediately after the lecture. This will give students the opportunity to meet and interact with her in an informal setting.

For more information on Rod Ziemer and past lectures, please visit:

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/agecon/lecture/Ziemer.html>

For more information on Dr. Catherine Kling, please visit:

<http://www.card.iastate.edu/facstaff/profile.aspx?id=24>

Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Student News

Quiz Bowl Team

UGA's Agricultural and Applied Economics Quiz Bowl team participated in competition at the annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) in Corpus Christie, Texas February 6-7, 2011.

In the spring semester 2011, six students in Agricultural and Applied Economics, **Jennie Allison**, **Zeke Bryant**, **Philip Klayman**, **Gena Perry**, **Nicholas Pisarello**, and **Travis Voyles**, prepared to compete in the SAEA's Academic Quiz Bowl by taking a class in applied agricultural economics topics led by J. Wesley Burnett and Glenn C. W. Ames, doctoral student and professor, respectively. The Quiz Bowl format mixes students from other association universities into teams of three who compete against each other and the clock. Moderators read from a test bank of questions on micro and macro economic theory, agribusiness, quantitative methods, resource policy, management, and potpourri. Several team members made it through to the eighth round, which was a very good showing against tough competition in their first Quiz Bowl.



← Zeke Bryant, Gena Perry, Travis Voyles, and Jennie Allison at the marina in Corpus Christi

Jennie Allison, Zeke Bryant, Travis Voyles, and Philip Klayman at the Quiz Bowl →



← Jennie Allison, Zeke Bryant, Gena Perry, and Travis Voyles in Corpus Christi

(Front) Dr. Glenn C. W. Ames, Gena Perry, Jennie Allison,
and Dr. Octavio Ramirez
(Back) Zeke Bryant, Travis Voyles, Philip Klayman, and
Nicholas Pisarello →



Agricultural Fellowships

Two of our students have been awarded Agricultural Fellowships and will be interning in Washington, D.C. in the summer of 2011. **Caleb Davis** will be working in the office of Congressman Austin Scott, and **Taylor Sills** will be working in the office of Senator Johnny Isakson.

Departmental Graduates

Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the fall of 2010:

| Name | Degree | Major |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Mitchum Lee Attaway | BSA | AGB |
| John M. Averill, III | BSA | AGB |
| Alison Ruth Burkett | BSES | EEM |
| Eldon Chance Callaway | BSA | AGB |
| Sean Michael Cranshaw | BSA | AGB |
| Alyssa May Demory | BSA | AGB |
| Samuel Jack Drew | BSA | AGB |
| Frederick William Gosman, IV | BSA | AAE |
| Aaron Lee Fields | BSES | EEM |
| Shaw Michael Gravitt | BSES | EEM |
| Wiley Ross Greene | BSA | AGB |
| Robert Cannon Hampton | BSES | EEM |
| Jon Davis Huffmaster, Jr. | BSA | AGB |
| Michael Haywood Hutchinson | BSES | EEM |
| Dianne Malone Lane | BSA | AGB |
| David Matthew Lemond | BSES | EEM |
| Christina Marie Majdalani | BSA | AGB |
| David Holmes Payne | BSA | AGB |
| Kendall Brannon Self | BSES | EEM |
| Bryan Justin Simmons | BSA | AGB |
| Jonathan Daniel Webber | BSA | AGB |
| Joseph Tyler Wester | BSA | AGB |
| Joseph Arrington Whorton | BSA | AGB |
| Sarah Luise Wunsch | BSES | EEM |

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 or mail the information to Audrey Hudson, 303 Conner Hall, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, UGA, Athens, GA 30602.

Graduate Student Spotlight



J. Wesley Burnett



J. Wesley Burnett, a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, is from Atlanta, Georgia. His concentration is in environmental and natural resource economics. Wesley holds a B.A. from the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC and an M.S. from the University of Georgia.

Wesley has proven to be an excellent student during his years in the department. In 2010, he was selected as the Outstanding Ph.D. Student in the department, and he received the Outstanding Ph.D. Paper Award. He is the recipient of an Agricultural and Applied Economics Association travel grant, and he was selected to present a graduate student invited paper at the Southern Economics Association meeting this year. He also traveled to Denver, CO twice this year to present a paper at the North American Regional Science Committee meeting and poster at the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association meeting.

From 2007 through 2008, Wesley served as president of the university-wide Graduate Student Association where he represented the 8,000 graduate and professional students on campus. He is a current member of the department's Graduate Student Association. He is also a member of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, the Southern Agricultural Economics Association, the Southern Economics Association, and the North American Regional Science Committee.

Wesley is a graduate research assistant working in collaboration with Drs. John Bergstrom and Michael Wetzstein. He is also currently teaching an upper-class special topics course in the department and serves as one of the captains

of the undergraduate Quiz Bowl Team.

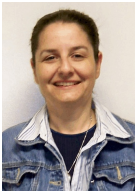
Regarding his experiences in the department, Wesley stated, “The course-work is obviously helpful in preparing for a career, but honestly, the intangible skills that I learned in the department are almost as equally important. My mentors have taught me how to navigate the entire academic process from student to professional economist.”

Wesley plans to complete his Ph.D. program early in 2011. After graduation, he hopes to acquire work conducting research in the areas of energy, environmental, and natural resource economics.

When asked what advice he has for current students in the department, Wesley stated, “There’s always a ‘vice’ in every bit of ‘advice,’ but I would probably tell them to take it easy and enjoy the experience. In hindsight, I was overly eager to produce research and put too much pressure on myself. It would have benefitted me greatly to enjoy the student experience a little more.”

In his spare time, Wesley does some volunteer work with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia. He enjoys cooking, reading, boxing, tennis, disc golf, yoga, tent camping, and other outdoor activities. He is also an avid cowbell enthusiast. He and his wife of six years also enjoy their two dogs and taking them for walks.

Visiting Scholars



Zsuzsanna Deak (Ph.D. Candidate) of Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary was a visitor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics from January 15 through March 4 conducting research with Dr. Wojciech Florkowski.



Grace Melo Guerrero is a student intern from the Pan-American Agricultural School, Zamorano University, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. She is taking classes and involved in research projects. Grace is from Quito, Ecuador and she will be visiting the department until the middle of May.



Ana Mendoza Hernández is a student intern from the Pan-American Agricultural School, Zamorano University, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. She is taking classes and involved in research projects. Ana is from Escuintla, Guatemala, and she will be visiting the department until the middle of May.

Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Stanley Fletcher



Dr. Stanley Fletcher is a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, working at the Griffin Campus. He joined the department in 1979 when he began his career as an assistant professor. In 1985, he was promoted to associate professor, and in 1993, he was promoted to professor. During the entire 32 years of Dr. Fletcher's employment at the university, he has been a very committed and proactive faculty member.

Dr. Fletcher is the author or co-author of more than 475 publications, many of which were refereed. He has conducted a vast amount of research and has been a principal or co-principal investigator on grants totaling \$6,853,376 and a cooperator on grants totaling \$10,849,686. He is nationally and internationally known for his expertise in all things pertaining to peanuts. He has prepared and made more than 490 presentations to professional and industry groups, a number of which were invited. On several occasions, Dr. Fletcher has been invited to present testimony related to various Farm Bills to the Senate and U.S. House Agriculture Subcommittees and data to be used in testimony before the House Subcommittee on Small Business. In addition, he has been called countless times by USDA personnel regarding peanut economic policy, trade, and marketing issues, and he has been interviewed numerous times by radio and television hosts on these topics.

Dean Scott Angle, along with the peanut industry leaders, requested that Dr. Fletcher lead and coordinate the industry-wide farmers' stock peanuts grading project. Dr. Fletcher had the task of enhancing and changing the system that had been in place since the 1950s with a goal of meeting the needs of the 21st century's global environment and competition.

Dr. Fletcher is the only economist elected as a Fellow for the American Peanut Research and Education Society. Also included in the impressive list of Dr. Fletcher's awards are the 2006 APRES Dow AgroSciences Award for Excellence in Education, the 2005 Georgia Peanut Distinguished Service Award, the 2004 APRES Dow AgroSciences Award for Excellence in Research, the 2004 American Peanut Council's Peanut Research and Education Award, the 2002 Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Award, and the 1999 Presidential Award for Excellence in Research and Communication.

Dr. Fletcher plans to retire from the university in April, but he will continue his important work with the peanut industry.

Research Spotlight

Dr. John C. Bergstrom



Dr. John C. Bergstrom was named the first Richard B. Russell Distinguished Professor of Public Policy in 2005. He joined the faculty of the University of Georgia on January 1, 1987 after completing his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University in 1986. He earned an M.S. in agricultural economics from Clemson University in 1982 and a B.S. in conservation and resource management from the University of Maryland in 1979. In his roles as Russell Professor of Public Policy and Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Dr. Bergstrom's research, teaching, and outreach programs focus on developing concepts and techniques for assessing natural resource and agricultural values and applying these values to resource and agricultural public policy and management.

Dr. Bergstrom's expertise and accomplishments have been recognized nationally and internationally through professional publications and presentations, research and outreach contracts and grants, teaching and curriculum development, and service as a technical advisor and consultant. His research record includes over one hundred refereed professional publications and over \$3 million in research contracts and grants, with most of these funds received from the USDA to support projects assessing natural resource and agricultural values and the application of these values to inform public policy and management. Many of the research contracts and grants received by Dr. Bergstrom are provided by agencies, organizations, and firms to address specific public policy problems and issues. Research results are therefore directly applied with Dr. Bergstrom's technical assistance to solve pressing natural resource, environmental, and agricultural policy issues. Dr. Bergstrom's research program and expertise in natural resource and agricultural valuation has also been recognized over his career at UGA through speaking invitations at various professional and public service meetings and his work as a technical consultant for federal, state, and local government agencies, non-profit organizations and private firms.

Dr. Bergstrom's research has strong public service and outreach connections and impacts. He works extensively with research clients to transfer and apply research results to practical public policy analysis, assessment and decision-making. He is often called upon by federal, state, and local government agencies, private non-governmental organizations, private firms, and private landowners and firms to provide advice and consultation on resource, environmental and agricultural valuation, policy, and management. Dr. Bergstrom is also currently working with individual farmers and landowners in Georgia to help develop strategies and funding proposals for preserving their farms through conservation easements. Dr. Bergstrom also teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in natural resource and environmental economics and policy, coordinates the undergraduate environmental economics and management internship program, and coordinates the department and graduate student seminar series. In addition, he serves as an undergraduate and graduate student advisor and mentor for the AAEC Department and the UGA Honors Program.

Faculty News

Banana News in Georgia



Americans consume 33 pounds of bananas per person every year, and 99 percent of all bananas eaten in the U.S. come from other countries.



Dr. Greg Fonsah, head of the UGA Banana Project, and a team of researchers has been investigating 35 banana varieties in Georgia since 2003. Dr. Fonsah is hopeful that bananas could be much like strawberries or blueberries, which have both turned into multi-million dollar crops in Georgia in the past few decades. He stated, "It will be our new commodity, and at least part of that \$1.5 billion spent to import bananas to the United States would be going back to boost our economy."

According to Dr. Fonsah, the Veinte Cohol banana variety, which was discovered in Florida, looks promising as a Georgia crop. Like all bananas, the variety does not tolerate cold temperatures, but it is a short-cycle banana which grows well in Georgia and the Southeast. Most bananas need to mature on the tree for three months before harvest, but the Veinte Cohol variety can be planted in April and harvested in October before killing frosts reach the southern part of the state. Compared to the Cavendish, the favored variety in the U.S., Veinte Cohol bananas are smaller and tangier with a slight citrus flavor.



Dr. Terry Centner completed his term as undergraduate coordinator in December 2010. Dr. Ramirez presented Dr. Centner with a plaque in appreciation of his excellent

service to the department as undergraduate coordinator.

Dr. Luanne Lohr has resigned from her position as professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and accepted a position at the U.S.D.A. in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Timothy Park has resigned from his position as professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and accepted a position at the U.S.D.A. in Washington, D.C.

The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics appreciates the service and contributions made by **Drs. Lohr** and **Park** during their tenure at UGA.

Amanda Smith has been promoted to the position of Public Service Associate. Amanda has also been accepted as a participant in the 2011 Class of the Extension Academy for Professional Excellence. Congratulations, Amanda!



Publications

Awondo, S.N., K.J. Egan, and D.F. Dwyer. (2011) "Increasing Beach Recreation Benefits by Using Wetlands to Reduce Contamination." *Marine Resource Economics*, 26(1): 1-15.

Colson, Gregory, Corrigan, Jay R., and Rousu, Matthew C. (2010) "The Impact of Perceived Prices on Willingness to Pay in Experimental Auctions." *Journal of Agricultural & Food Industrial Organization*, 8(1): Article 9.

Escalante, Cesar L. (2011) "Georgia Farms." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Ferreira, S. and Moro, M. (2011) "Constructing Genuine Savings Indicators for Ireland, 1995-2005." *Journal of Environmental Management*, 92: 542-553.

Fonsah, Esendugue Greg. (2011) "Fruits and Nuts." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Fonsah, Esendugue Greg. (2011) "Vegetables." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Kostandini, Genti, Brad Mills, and Elton Mykerezi. (2011) "Ex-Ante Evaluation of Drought-Tolerant Varieties in Eastern and Central Africa." *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 62: 172-206.

Lacy, Curt. (2011) "Beef." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Lacy, Curt. (2011) "Pork." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Nzaku, Kilungu, Jack E. Houston, and Esendugue Greg Fonsah. (2010) "Analysis of U.S. Demand for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Imports." *Journal of Agribusiness*, 28(2): 163-181.

Ramirez, O.A., F. Ward, R. Al-Tabini, and R. Phillips. (2010) "Efficient Water Conservation in Agriculture for Growing Urban Water Demands in Jordan." *Water Policy*, 13:102-124.

Shurley, Don and Amanda Smith. (2011) "Cotton Economic Situation and Outlook for 2011." *2011 Georgia Cotton Production Guide*, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Georgia, CSS-11-01.

Shurley, Don. (2011) "Cotton." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Smith, Amanda, Nathan Smith, and Don Shurley. (2011) "Row Crop Net Returns." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Smith, Nathan. (2011) "Peanuts." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Smith, Nathan. (2011) "Grains and Soybeans." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Stegelin, Forrest. (2011) "Green Industry." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Stegelin, Forrest. (2011) "Inputs and Production Expenditures." *2011 Georgia Ag Forecast*, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia.

Who's Been Where & Why Travel & Presentations



Jennie Allison traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Glenn Ames traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to accompany the Academic Quiz Bowl Team and participate in the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Zeke Bryant traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

James Wesley Burnett traveled to Knoxville, TN in November to attend the Renewal Energy Biomass Education Field Days.

Brian Chiputwa traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled, "Determinants of Adoption of Conservation Agriculture Technologies by Smallholder Farmers in the Shamva District of Zimbabwe: A Tobit Application," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by Augustine S. Langyintuo and Patrick Wall.

Dr. Susana Ferreira traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present her paper titled, "An Analysis of the Determinants of Flood Damages," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. She served as moderator for a Resource and Environmental Economics selected paper session. She was also the coordinator of the Natural Resource Economics Selected Papers Program. In addition, Dr. Ferreira was an invited speaker for a panel on "Climate Change & Food Security" at the 5th Annual National Summit of the International Association for Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences held in Athens, in February.

Dr. James Epperson presented his paper, "The Potential for Supply Management of the Southeastern Sweet Onions Revisited," at the Food Distribution Research Society in Destin, FL in October. The paper was co-authored by **Haobo Luo**.

Dr. Stanley Fletcher traveled to Washington, D.C. in November to attend an S-1043 Regional Multi-State Research Committee meeting and again in February to make a presentation to the American Farm Bureau Federation Commodity Advisory Committee. He traveled to Panama City Beach, FL in December to attend a Southern Peanut Farmers Federation meeting. In March, Dr. Fletcher traveled to Oklahoma City, OK to attend the 2011 Oklahoma Peanut Expo, to New Orleans, LA to attend the S-1043 Regional Multi-State Research meeting, and to Washington, D.C. to attend the 2011 American Peanut Council meeting.

Dr. Wojciech Florkowski traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to attend the Southern Agricultural

Economics Association annual meetings. He serves as the association's secretary. He also traveled to Ghana in February to attend research progress meetings.

Dr. Jack Houston traveled to Bamako, Mali in February with Dr. Michael Lacy, Poultry Science, to investigate sites, personnel, and collaborators for a new USAID/CSRS poultry research/outreach/training project in rural Mali.

Dr. Jeff Jordan traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to attend the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. He serves as the association's treasurer and served as the social planner for the 2011 annual meetings. In March, he traveled to Birmingham, AL to attend a meeting with the SAAS Convention coordinator.

Keith Kightlinger traveled to Orlando, FL in February to participate in the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation annual meetings.

Philip Klayman traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Dr. Genti Kostandini traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his invited paper titled, "Viability of Organic Production in Rural Counties: County and State Level Evidence from the US," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by Elton Mykerezi and Eftila Tanellari.

Dr. Curt Lacy traveled to Corpus Christie, TX in February to participate in the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. He was a presenter at the organized symposium titled, "Market News Service and Its Role in Price Discovery: Past, Present and Future Directions for the Service in Southern States." Dr. Lacy also traveled to Washington, D.C. in February to participate in session III of The Lead21 Class. In November, he traveled to

Washington, D.C. in February to participate in session III of The Lead21 Class. In November, he traveled to the University of Florida in Gainesville and the Indian River Research and Education Center in Ft. Pierce, FL to participate in meetings on how to best utilize distance education technology on college campuses.

Xiaofei Li traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled, "Effects of China's Anti-dumping Tariffs on US-China Bilateral Poultry Trade," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Drs. Lewell Gunter**, and **James Epperson**.

Haobo Luo traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present her paper titled, "Estimation of a Composite Food Demand System for the United States—A Revisit," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Drs. Chung L. Huang and Biing-Hwan Lin**.

Dawit Kelemework Mekonnen traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled, "Restricted Source Differentiated Almost Ideal Demand System Estimation for US Apple Juice Imports," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. **Dr. Esendugue Greg Fonsah** co-authored the paper.

Dr. Jeff Mullen traveled to Corpus Christi, TX to present an invited paper titled, "Projecting and Planning Water Use in Georgia," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. He also traveled to Huntsville, AL in December to attend a meeting with a research collaborator.

Padmanand Madhavan Nambiar traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled "Socio-economic and Demographic Factors Affecting the Likelihood of Being an Overweight Korean Woman," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) annual meetings. The paper was

co-authored by **Dr Wojciech Florkowski** and Dong-Kyun Suh. Padmanand also won the logo competition for the SAEA.

Douglas Patton traveled to Albuquerque, NM in February to present a seminar at the W-2133 and U.S. Forest Service meetings and workshops

Gena Perry traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Nicholas Pisarello traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Jack Purvis traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled, "Cost-Efficient Valuation of Aesthetic Amenities," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Drs. Elizabeth Kramer and Jeff Dorfman**.

Cheng Qiu traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present her paper titled, "An Ethanol Blend Wall Shift Is Prone to Increase Petroleum Gasoline Demand," at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Drs. Michael Wetzstein, Greg Colson, and Zibin Zhang**.

Dr. Octavio Ramirez traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in and represent the department at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Tony Simpson traveled to Knoxville, TX in November to attend the Renewal Energy Biomass Education Field Days.

Ganna Sheremenko traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present her paper titled, "United States

Tobacco Industry After the Buyout” at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Dr. James E. Epperson**

Amanda Smith presented her paper, “An Investment Comparison Between Conventional and Conservation Tillage Equipment for Cotton,” at the 2011 Beltwide Cotton Conferences in Atlanta in January. Co-authors of the paper were **Drs. Don Shurley** and **Nathan Smith**.

Dr. Nathan Smith presented his paper, “Analysis of Crop Insurance and Coverage Options for Cotton-Peanut Farms for 2011” at the 2011 Beltwide Cotton Conferences in Atlanta in January. **Dr. Don Shurley** and **Amanda R. Smith** co-authored the paper. **Dr. Nathan Smith** also traveled to Madison, FL to make a presentation at a grain marketing meeting and to Quincy, FL to make a presentation at an agent training meeting in February. In addition, **Dr. Smith** traveled to Branford, FL in March to participate in a Tri-County Peanut meeting.

A presentation titled, “Should Southern Growers Revisit the ACRE Decision? A Georgia Example,” was presented at the annual meeting of SERA 39 in Corpus Christi, TX in February. The presentation was co-authored by **Dr. Don Shurley**, **Dr. Nathan Smith**, **Wes Harris**, and **Amanda Smith**.

Dr. Don Shurley made an invited presentation, “2011 Cotton Price Situation and Outlook,” at the annual South Carolina Cotton Growers meeting in Orangeburg, SC in January. **Dr. Shurley** also made an invited presentation, “2011 Cotton Price Situation and Outlook,” at the Virginia Cotton Growers annual meeting in Franklin, VA in February.

A paper titled, “Subsurface Drip Irrigation Management in Southeast Crop Rotations,” was presented at the 2011 Beltwide Cotton Conferences in

January. The paper was co-authored by Drs. C.D. Perry, Glen Ritchie, Jared Whitaker, Rad Yager, **Don Shurley**, and R. Scott Tubbs.

Dr. Forrest Stegelin traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to present his paper titled, “‘Buying Local’ Means ‘Selling Local’ - Using a Transportation Alliance of Environmental Horticulture Producers in Georgia,” at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings. The paper was co-authored by **Drs. Jack Houston, Javier Mantilla Compte, Paul Thomas, and Matthew Chappell**. **Dr. Stegelin** also served as moderator for the potpourri session at the meetings. He also traveled to Mobile, AL in February to present his paper titled, “Rural Retail Lawn and Garden Market Benchmarks,” at the Southern Nursery Association Research Conference and to Augusta to present his paper, “Farming and the Cobweb Theory - Its Affect on Agriculture Retailers,” at the Agricultural Retailers Association annual conference. **Dr. Stegelin** traveled to Savannah in February to present his paper titled, “Transportation Alliances of Environmental and Food Horticultural Producers in Georgia: Aids in Buying and Selling Local,” at the Southeastern Decision Sciences Institute (SEDSI) annual conference. The SEDSI awarded his paper an honorable mention in the *a g r i b u s i n e s s / a g r i c u l t u r a l* economics/economics/finance section, and he served as a discussant for two papers and the session chair and judge for the undergraduate paper competition.

Travis Voyles traveled to Corpus Christi, TX in February to participate in the Academic Quiz Bowl at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association annual meetings.

Huiting Wu traveled to Knoxville, TN in November to attend the Renewal Energy Biomass Education Field Days.

Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Steven Cornell Turner



Dr. Steven Cornell Turner is a professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University (MSU). He was recently recognized for significant contributions to his field with the 2011 Southern Agricultural Economics Association's (SAEA) Lifetime Achievement Award at the association's annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas. The interim dean of MSU's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, George Hopper, stated, "Turner's personal commitment to academics, volunteerism, and professional organizations is an asset to the university community." Dr. John Lee who is the former head of MSU's Department of Agricultural Economics nominated Dr. Turner for the award. He stated, "As department head, Dr. Turner has demonstrated an ability to attract top faculty, inspire successful grantsmanship, raise academic standards and initiate new degree programs.....He also has maintained a high level of faculty and staff morale in the face of major budget challenges." Dr. Turner is an outstanding educator whose career has been balanced with quality productivity in research, teaching, and service. He has gained a national reputation through service with national and regional organizations and an array of outstanding accomplishments in teaching, research, and various service activities.

Dr. Turner's outstanding reputation earned him the position of Chair of the Board of Directors of the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE) in Washington, D.C. He is still active in the organization, which works to identify key economic issues, establish priorities, and seeks support for research, extension and academic instruction. The organization collaborates with other professional organizations to foster support for agricultural research and publicize agricultural economics contributions to solving important societal issues.

Dr. Turner received his B.A. in English Literature from Mercer University in 1975, his M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Georgia in 1981, and his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1986. From 1979 through 1981, he worked as a research assistant in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Georgia while pursuing his M.S. He then worked as a research associate/assistant in the Agricultural Economics Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University while he earned his Ph.D. Upon receiving his Ph.D., Dr. Turner returned to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at U.G.A. as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1993. After being promoted to professor in 2003, he was offered his current position at Mississippi State University.

As the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department's undergraduate coordinator for a number of years, Dr. Turner provided effective leadership for curriculum development and management and student recruitment for three majors – agricultural economics, agribusiness, and environmental economics and management. Providing outstanding support to various student groups and clubs at UGA, he served as advisor for the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club and to the student chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA).

His extraordinary service to NAMA earned him the respect of students across the nation. This resulted in his being elected by students in agricultural economics clubs nationwide to serve as faculty advisor to the student section of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA). He served in this position from 1991 to 1994. These

clubs now rank among the most active and competitive clubs in the nation.

In 2000, Dr. Turner was elected to serve as president of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA). He has provided significant service to both SAEA and the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) as faculty advisor to the student section, directing the teaching workshop, initiating the Academic Bowl and Graduate Student Fair, and elevating the importance of students and teaching within both organizations.

During his seventeen years as a faculty member at UGA, Dr. Turner became widely known for being a gifted and effective teacher, highly supportive of his students, imaginative, and caring. He advised and accompanied students as they participated in NAMA and College Bowl competitions which provided excellent learning experiences. He consistently enjoyed excellent teacher evaluations and was generally recognized by students as an outstanding advisor. Dedicated to professional development and improvement of classroom teaching, he served on numerous committees related to teaching, including serving as chair of the UGA Instructional Advisory Committee in 2000 and 2001. He was one of the first Lilly Fellows and is a Senior Teaching Fellow. In 2001, he was inducted into UGA's Teaching Academy and served as a leader in the development of a national network of teachers of agricultural marketing.

On numerous occasions, Dr. Turner was recognized by exiting seniors as among the best teachers in the department. He has an impressive list of awards documenting his outstanding teaching qualifications, including being named the department's Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher four times – 1987, 1991, 1995 and 1999. He has received numerous college and university teaching awards, including the D.W. Brooks Distinguished Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1991, the Agricultural Alumni Association Teaching Award in 1992, the American Agricultural Economics Association Distinguished Teaching Award in 1992, the Teaching Award of Merit in 1992, and Superior Teaching Recognition at the UGA Honors Day Convocation in 1992. He was recognized as one of the best undergraduate teachers at UGA with the Richard B. Russell Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in 1993. In addition, he received the SAEA Distinguished Professional Contribution in the Teaching of a Course Award in 1996, the UGA Student Government Outstanding Teacher Award, and the Graduate Student Association's Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award in 2002.

Dr. Turner's career at UGA was also successful in the area of his research. With a 50% research appointment for most of his seventeen years at the university, he has an impressive publication record. He co-authored two books on futures markets and authored a chapter in a book on the teaching of economics. Additionally, he authored or co-authored at least thirty-one professional journal articles, seven bulletins or reports, thirty-five journal abstracts, twenty-six proceedings chapters, along with numerous other publications, and secured in excess of \$144,000 in educational and research grant funding during his years at UGA. He established a research program in marketing landscape plants and livestock, and he was among the first group of professors to conduct research on the economics of the green industry. In addition to his work in teaching and research, he served as a member and/or chair of countless committees during his years at the university.

The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at UGA would like to congratulate Dr. Steven Turner on his Lifetime Achievement Award and on his successful career.



Alumni News

Charles Grimsley (B.S.A. in agribusiness in 2001) was sworn in as a member of the Georgia Bar in the Superior Court of Twiggs County in December 2010. He was the first attorney sworn in at the Twiggs County Court since 1974. After earning his B.S.A. from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Charles obtained an M.B.A. from Mercer University, where he finished first in his class. He graduated cum laude from Mercer Law School in May 2010 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in litigation and dispute resolution at the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Wan-Tran Huang (Ph.D. in agricultural economics in 1989) is teaching and conducting research at Asia University in Taiwan.

David Lemond (B.S.E.S. in environmental economics and management in 2010) is working for Gaia Tech in Atlanta, an environmental consulting/risk management group. After his training, David will be conducting environmental site assessments for commercial real estate properties. David secured his job through the South Campus Career Fair in 2010.



Wilbur Mull (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1963 and M.S. in 1965), owner of Classic Groundcover, Inc., Athens, is the winner of the 2011

Georgia Green Industry Lifetime Achievement Award. Wilbur has been in the wholesale nursery business for 48 years. He has received numerous awards and recognitions for his innovative work, including the David E. Laird Memorial Award, the Slater Wight Memorial Award, and the 2003 Jake Tinga Distinguished Professional of the Year Award.

Florence Santos (M.S. in environmental economics in 2010) is a research and evaluation specialist working with the Rural Development Institute (RDI), an international nonprofit organization dedicated to ending global poverty by securing land rights for the world's poor. She is leading and supporting project implementation, research, and monitoring and evaluating activities related to rural land tenure and agricultural livelihood projects in Africa, China, India, and other countries. Florence is currently part of a study related to women's land rights and the National Land Tenure Regularization Program in Rwanda and is involved in processing data from a women's survey RDI carried out in rural China which is also a study on women's land rights.

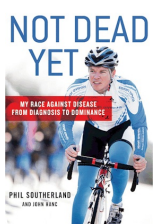


Dr. Kavita Sardana (Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics in 2010) is an instructor of environmental economics and a postdoctoral research associate working with David A. Hennessy and GianCarlo Moschini at the Department of Economics, Iowa State University. Kavita is now engaged to marry Shubhro Bhattacharya who plans to complete his Ph.D. program in economics from the Department of Economics at Iowa State University in the summer of 2011. Shubhro is majoring in mathematical finance and public economics.



Adam Smith (B.S.E.S. in environmental economics and management in 2001) has been appointed to the Douglas-Coffee County Economic Development Authority (EDC). After earning his B.S.E.S. from the University of Georgia, Adam earned an M.S. from Colorado State University in 2004. Adam's current position as Chief Lending Officer at First National Bank of Coffee County (FNBCC) places him at the forefront of investment and business development. Jo

Anne Lewis, executive director of the EDA, commented, "We are excited to have Adam working on behalf of the economic well-being of Coffee County." Adam served as chairman for the Chamber's Young Professional Network and helped to spearhead the Coffee Middle School Mentor Program which acts as a connection between education and business.



Phil Southerland (B.S.A. in agribusiness in 2005) is the chief executive officer and founder of Team Type I, an international program working towards the Tour de France 2012 and developing sustainable/scalable systems for delivering diabetes supplies and education to developing countries. Phil has authored a book, *Not Dead Yet*, which will be released May 10, 2011 (<http://www.teamtype1.org/book/>).



Bryan R. Tolar

Bryan Tolar (B.S.A. in agribusiness in 1992) has been named president of the Georgia Agribusiness Council, Inc. (GAC), the state's broad-based trade association for the entire food and fiber industry. Bryan joined the GAC in 1997 as the member services representative serving GAC and AgriTrust of Georgia. In 2001, he was named director of Marketing, Education and Environmental Programs, representing GAC on issues related to natural resources and the environment. In 2003, he became the vice president of Public Affairs, representing GAC member interest in the public arena on regulatory, legislative, and other matters related to agribusinesses.



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 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.

Obituaries



David E. McElyea (M.S. in agricultural economics in 1985) of Cave Creek, Arizona passed away on November 14, 2010 at the age of 64. From 1985 through 2005, David worked for American Express as a vice president working in risk management and international marketing. The last two years of his career were with ACC Capital Holdings Corporation. David was born in New London, Connecticut, then moved with his family to Asheville, NC. He graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1970, and owned several small business before acquiring his M.S., including motorcycle shops. He had a passion for motorcycles throughout his lifetime.

Journal of Agribusiness

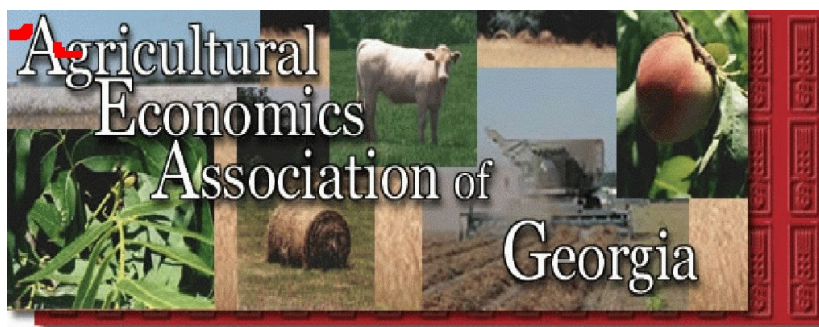
The new editors of the *Journal of Agribusiness*, James E. Epperson and Cesar L. Escalante, would like to encourage all people interested in submitting articles to the *Journal* to do so. The *Journal* will publish papers and case studies on a wide range of topics including all areas of agribusiness, 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.

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.



Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia

2010 J.W. Fanning Lecture, Luncheon, and Award Ceremony



The 26th annual J.W. Fanning Lecture was held December 10, 2010 at the Georgia Center in Athens. The speaker, Dr. Mark Partridge, Swank Chair of Rural-Urban Policy at Ohio State University, spoke on the topic, "Fighting Poverty One Community at a Time." The event was co-sponsored by the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia.

Following the lecture, attendees enjoyed a luncheon and award ceremony in the Magnolia Ballroom at the Georgia Center. Craig Scroggs, president of the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, presented the annual J. W. Fanning Distinguished Professional awards.

J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Awards



The winner of the 2010 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Young Professional Award was **Clint Murphy** (B.S.A. in agribusiness in 2004). Clint is the regional director of Ducks Unlimited, North America's largest wetlands and water fowl conservation group. He has been with the organization for three years and has achieved great success through his position. He oversees a one-half-million dollar, not-for-profit fund raising region.

The money raised goes for wetland research and conservation all over North America. Several of his chapters have received statewide and some nationwide recognition for their efforts and contributions to the organization.

The winner of the 2010 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award was **Spencer Black** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1989). Spencer is employed by Triangle Chemical Company, Inc., a business dedicated to delivering the best crop production technology and information through its distribution network. Spencer is the company's sales and marketing coordinator for the state of Georgia. In this role, he provides a key link between the various manufacturers of biotechnology and agricultural chemicals to the corresponding field sales personnel and farmer customers. Spencer is on the board of directors of the Perry United Methodist Church, the board of directors of the Georgia Agribusiness Council, the Georgia Certified Crop Advisors, the Southern Crop Production Association, past president of the Georgia Crop Production Alliance, and is a member of various professional organizations.

If you would like to learn more about the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia (AEAG), visit their website at www.aeag.uga.edu.



Membership in the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia is open to people sharing a common interest in agricultural economics, agribusiness, and related fields. Membership is by application or invitation by an association member. Individual membership in the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia is \$25 per year and includes a subscription to the Journal of Agribusiness and the AEAG Newsletter as well as attendance at the J.W. Fanning Lecture. Membership rates for students and associates (individuals within three years of graduation) are \$10 per year. The membership rate for libraries and other institutions is \$35 per year. Corporate membership is \$150 per year. Lifetime memberships for individuals and corporate members are \$250 and \$1,000, respectively.

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

Name _____
Employer _____ Title _____
Address _____ Apt # _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Please check one of the following:

- Student Membership \$10
- Individual Membership \$25
- Library/Institutional Membership \$35
- Corporate Membership \$150
- Individual Lifetime Membership \$250
- Corporate Lifetime Membership \$1000

**For more information,
call 706-542-2481 or visit
www.aeag.uga.edu**

**Please send your membership application and dues to:
Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia
303 Conner Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-7509**