



Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, The University of Georgia

Newsletter

Summer, 2005

Graduation



Governor Sonny Perdue spoke at the University of Georgia commencement and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences recognition ceremony on May 14, 2005. He is shown here with the Spring 2005 Agricultural and Applied Economics graduates.



Gary Black

Conner Connects, 2005

The annual Conner Connects Banquet was held on April 21, 2005 at the State Botanical Gardens, Georgia Visitors Center in Athens, Georgia. Guests at the celebration included college administration, alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends. Jared Nutt, president of the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club, presided over the festivities. The keynote speaker was Gary Black, president of the Georgia Agribusiness Council, Inc.

We appreciate the banquet sponsors for their generous support which contributed greatly to the success of Conner Connects, 2005. The department extends a heartfelt thank you to all who participated and to our sponsors: Gresco, Mr. Jake Jones, Mr. Jim Nutt, Dr. Bob Shulstad, and Dr. Wen Williams.

The Rod Ziemer Lecture

Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture Tommy Irvin presented the Rod Ziemer Lecture at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens on April 12, 2005. Commissioner Irvin explained the mission and activities of the Georgia Department of Agriculture. The Department's mission is to protect and promote agriculture and consumer interests, and to ensure an abundance of safe food and fiber for Georgia, America, and the world by using state-of-

the-art technology and a professional workforce. He also identified the Department's new initiatives in Georgia's agricultural products and examined the international marketplace.

The lecture honors an outstanding graduate from the Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics, Rod Ziemer, who tragically died in an automobile accident. Rod was a prolific author and a leader among graduate students. He was selected as the CAES Outstanding Graduate Student and also received the American Agricultural Economics Association's Outstanding Dissertation Award. The annual lecture not only brings honor to the memory of this remarkable graduate, but also inspires excellence in future generations of agricultural economics graduate students.

Tom Frazier Golf Classic

The Second Annual Tom Frazier Golf Classic was held Friday, April 15, 2005 at the University of Georgia Golf Course. The golf course was in excellent condition and for the second straight year participants could not ask for nicer weather. The team of Tom Frazier, Bill Frazier and Chuck Laughlin won Low Gross honors with a score of 67. First Place Net went to the team of Josh Chandler, Cole McNair, Brett Tucker and Michael Railey. Second Place Net went to the team of Chris Baucom, Greg Baucom, Chris Groskreutz and Brian Reeves. Special thanks go to Jo Anne Norris and Chris Peters for their work behind the scenes in making this event possible.



Faculty News

Dr. Barry Barnett were inducted into AGHON as an honorary member at their annual barbecue on April 9, 2005. Each semester the student membership selects honorary members who have exhibited outstanding leadership and growth.

Dr. Jack Houston was presented the Outstanding Graduate Teacher Award by the Graduate Student Association at the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 12, 2005.



At the Conner Connects Banquet on April 21, 2005, **Dr. John Bergstrom** was presented the Outstanding Faculty Award and **Dr. Dmitry Vedenov** was presented the Service Award.



Drs. Nathan Smith, Vijay Subramaniam, Stanley Fletcher and **John Baldwin** received the Southern Agricultural Economics Association's Outstanding Poster Award.

Staff News

Dr. Ivery Clifton, former senior associate dean of CAES was presented the Faculty Service Award by the UGA Alumni Association on April 29th, 2005

Dr. Keith Kightlinger was elected as co-chair of the National Farm Income Tax Extension Committee.

Dr. Luanne Lohr has been awarded a Fellowship for Study in a Second Discipline with a concentration on Consumer Foods in the Department of Foods and Nutrition.

Dr. Don Shurley was presented the 2005 Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Extension Award on April 6, 2005.

Dr. Nathan Smith was elected as secretary of the Southern Extension Public Affairs Committee and will serve as a member of the National Public Policy Education Committee.

Jo Anne Norris, office manager, was inducted into AGHON as an honorary member on April 9, 2005 at their annual barbecue. Each semester the student membership selects honorary members who have exhibited outstanding leadership and growth.

Laura Alfonso, reference librarian, was presented the Outstanding Staff Award at the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 12, 2005.

Yanping Chen, computer specialist, was presented the Outstanding Staff Member Award at the Conner Connects Banquet on April 21, 2005.



Dianne O'Kelley, senior secretary, retired from the university on April 1, 2005 after twenty-three years of dedicated service to the department.

Outstanding Agricultural Economist Awards – Now Accepting Nominations

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

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

Nominations for the awards may come from anyone. AEAG members, faculty, alumni, students and agricultural economists in the state are encouraged to nominate qualified candidates for the awards. Also, agricultural economists should feel free to nominate themselves.

The nomination process is simple. Provide a brief description of the nominee's accomplishments, education, work experience, current position, past recognitions and awards, and contact information. Send nominations to the Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia, 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509. The deadline for award nominations is September 1, 2005. AEAG Board members will select award recipients. Both awards will be presented at the luncheon following the annual J. W. Fanning Lecture in November.

Undergraduate Student News

Allyson Barnes, an Agricultural and Environmental Policy major, and **Sam Daniel**, an Agricultural Economics and Finance major, were selected for membership in the Blue Key National Honor Society on April 3, 2005. Blue Key is a premier honor society that recognizes college students for balanced and all-around excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

The Nesbitt Flatt Award for the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Outstanding Senior was presented to **Joel McKie**, an agribusiness major, at the South Campus Student Awards Banquet on April 5, 2005. **Candice Clark**, an agribusiness major, was recognized as one of sixteen outstanding seniors in the college.

The following undergraduate students were inducted into the UGA Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the Honor Society of Agriculture on April 6, 2005: **Candice Clark**, **Joel McKie**, and **Jessica Wood**.

The following students were inducted into the AGHON Honorary Society on April 9, 2005 at their annual barbecue: **Allyson Barnes**, **Will Horkan**, **Jim Faircloth**, and **Candice Clark**. AGHON is the highest honor that a student in CAES may obtain while at UGA.

At the Conner Connects Banquet on April 21, 2005, **Candice Clark** received the Outstanding Senior Award, **Joel McKie** received the Outstanding Agribusiness Senior Award, **Christopher McClure** received the Outstanding Environmental Economics and Management Senior Award, and **Tim Haley** received the Leadership Award.

The following students were selected as CAES Ambassadors: **Bret Caudell**, an Agribusiness major from Toccoa, GA; **Betsy MacMillan**, an Environmental Economics and Management major from McDonough, GA; and **Ben McCorkle**, an Agribusiness major from Dearing, GA.

2005 - 2006 Scholarship Winners

Georgia Farm Credit Associations

Elizabeth MacMillan	Kim Darnton
Will Horkan	G. Ward Black, Jr.
Nathan Tyson	

Firor Memorial Scholarship

Marilynn Howard	Allyson L. Barnes
Philip Brown	

Proctor Memorial Scholarship

William Green	Chris Chammoun
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Co-Bank Scholarship

Sam Daniel	
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Tate Brookins Scholarship

David Nolan	Cathy Strickland
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Georgia Cooperative Council
Allyson L. Barnes

2005-2006 Agricultural & Environmental Economics Club Officers

President **Brett Tucker**

Vice Presidents **Bo Dotson (AEC)**
Steven Kuzniak (AGB)
Scott Laughlin (EEM)

Secretary **Cathy Strickland**

Treasurer **Lauren Vance**

Ag Hill Representatives **Suzannah Martin**
Ben McCorkle
Marilynn Howard

Allyson Barnes is the new 2005-2006 Ag Hill Council President.

David Denham, a fourth year Agricultural Economics major from Tifton, GA, has been named First-Team All SEC. He is the Georgia men's golf team's leader in scoring average (72.57), top-10 finishes (six), top-20 finishes (eight) and par-or-better rounds (14). He was named Second-Team All-SEC in 2003 and 2004.

Washington Interns

The following students are currently serving as summer interns in Washington, D.C.:

Griffin Evans is serving in Congressman Jack Kingston's office, **Will Horkin** is serving in Senator Saxby Chamblis's office, **Allyson Barnes** is serving in Congressman Sanford Bishop's office, **Carter Dunn** is serving in Congressman John Barrow's office, and **David Nolan** is interning for the US Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Graduate Student News

The following students were inducted into the UGA Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the Honor Society of Agriculture on April 6, 2005: **Luke Baine**, an M.S. Environmental Economics major, **Peter Foster**, an M.S. Environmental Economics major, **Doris Wangila Sande**, an M.S. Agricultural Economics major, and **Kathryn Swickard**, an M.S. Agricultural Economics major.

At the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 12, 2005, **Sarah Deng** received the Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award and **Julia Beckhusen**



received the Outstanding M.S. Student Award. **Dimitry Volinskiy** was the Rod Ziemer Paper Award winner for "Inexactness in Contingent Valuation: Valuing Forest Damage Restoration with a Fuzzy Logic Advisor."

Alumni News

Wilbur Mull conducted the Annual Black Tie Auction Gala for the UGA Football Team with the auction sale totaling \$47,800.

Dave McElyea recently retired from American Express in Phoenix, Arizona after twenty years with the company.

Donations to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics for July 2003 - June 10, 2005

We are very grateful to our alumni and friends for their financial support of the department.

Diamond: \$10,000 or more

Frank & Ann Brookins
Jere Thorne

Platinum: \$2,000-\$9,999

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen J. Brannen
Hsi-huang Chen
Billy Crider, Jr.

Gold: \$1000-\$1,999

James A. Brown, Jr.
Karlene F. Farmer
James R. Gamble, Jr.
John A. Gilleland
W. Joseph & Linda Laughlin
David Linder
Wilbur Mull
Randy Nuckolls
Fred C. White

Silver: \$200-\$999

Dr. & Mrs. Josef Broder
Robert (Bobby) Burton, Jr
Hayden A. Cox
James Epperson
J. H. Faulkner
Jason & Brigett Robin Floyd
Craig Willis Foster
Rodney Fowler
Thomas Frazier
Tassos Haniotis
William & Elizabeth Hopkins
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Ingram
Edward & Peggy James
Dan Jeter
Livia Cloman Lynch
Mark Messonier
Kate Morris
Robert B. Moss
Jerry Padgett
Robert Shulstad

Dr. & Mrs. George Shumaker
Steve Turner

Bronze: \$1-\$199

Donald Wayne & Myrtis Halstead Akins
Olugbenga Hakeem Akinsanya
Franklin Earl Aldag
Donald L. Altman
ARAMARK Corporation (company match for William Davis)
Julian H. Atkinson
Aventis Pharmaceuticals (company match for Joseph Sean Ragsdale)
Chandler Davis & Sonja Lee Bennett
Joe Brown Bostick, Jr. & Jean Jeffords Bostick
Joseph Walter Boyett
John David Brett
Jim Brown, Jr.
Bruce E. Butler
Clifford Morris Carman
Roger Carr
Joanne Daly Casey
David B. Collins, Inc.
John Charles Crenshaw
John Chapman Cromley
William Edwin Davis
James Harold Dixon, Jr.
Devin Lee & Regina Cannon Dunn
Jerald Wayne Eunice
William M. Exner
William Archie Flanders
Linda Dianne Fountain
Robert Franklin
Stevens Thomas Franklin
Eric Edward Friedrichsen
Carson Lee Gardner
Nathan Morris Garren
David A. Gazda
Willie Iverson Golden
Michael Harold Greer
Joe Ernest & Victoria Murphy Hayes
Bryan James Henderson
Peter Burton Hendrix
Arlyn Herrera
Robert A. Hill
Robert Hodges, Jr.
Stephen Wesley Hooks
Brian & Mandie Smith Holmes
William Leonard Howard
James Norman Hunter
Melissa Inoue
David Harold Jackson Edward James
Jerry Johnson
William Daniel Kibler
George Chris Lance
Alex G. Lebedeff
Oliver W. Mahone
James Duane McClay
Clayton Julius & Jill McDuffie
Gail Meads (LeGoff)
Michael Meadows

Sidney Lanier Mullis, Jr.
Betty Munis
Weyman Glenn O'Neal
Joseph Pearson
Robert Gerald Perkins
Ken Phillips
Hubert Allison Pless III
Jeff Powell
Keith Alan Prather
Joseph Sean Ragsdale
Kenneth Harold Roundtree
Calvin Bruce Rudd
Michael Stanley Railey
Howard Ray Sartain, Jr.
E. Kerry & Ann d. Scherer
John David Schnurr
Anne Firor Scott
James Stephen Singletary
Smith Brothers Livestock, Inc.
G & C Smith Farms, Inc. (Gerald Ernest Smith)

Michael Smith & Elizabeth Walker-Smith
William Danny & Patti Ray Smith
Grover Lee Starratt
Thomas Lenon Stripling
Gordon Sutton, Jr.
Teresa Diane Taylor
Garland Thompson
Mid Thorne
Marie Katherine Truesdell
Daniel Russell Vaughn, Jr.
Kenneth Gray Ward
Terrance Randall Wardlaw, Sr.
Walter Henry Weinwurm II
M. Harrell White
Joseph Gerard & Aidan Kane Wilber
Chuck Williams
Elaine Carlsen Wilson
Edward Eugene Worley

Please provide financial support to enrich the department's educational programs. The Agricultural and Applied Economics Improvement Fund supports many events that promote economic learning and the intellectual exchange of ideas. Additional support is needed for the Improvement Fund, as well as, endowments for scholarships, leadership awards, and a distinguished professorship. Many employers will match employee contributions to their alma maters. Please check with your company to see if they will match your contributions to the department.

Contact Information

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Scenes from ConnerConnects 2005



Scenes from 2nd Annual Tom Frazier Golf Classic

Career Choices

Your career choice would be of interest to current and prospective students. Please tell us about it by answering the short survey included with this newsletter and returning it to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509. Your updated information will be posted on the departmental website. The survey may also be downloaded and emailed to info@agecon.uga.edu. Thank you for your participation!

Alumni Survey - Agricultural and Applied Economics Department

Name (include Miss, Ms., Mrs., or Mr.) _____

Degree(s) (Major, University and Year) _____

Would you please comment on the quality of the department's undergraduate/graduate programs (courses, faculty, staff, networking, etc.).

Contact Information

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Employment

Employer: _____

Current Job Title: _____

Current Job Responsibilities: _____

News: Do you have a news update to be published in the Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAE) Department's Alumni Newsletter and/or posted on the AAE Alumni web page?

I am willing to have this information published in a newsletter or posted on the Agricultural and Applied Economics alumni site on the Internet.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please return your address and career information on the completed form to Agricultural and Applied Economics Department, 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509 or e-mail the information to [<aaecon@agecon.uga.edu>](mailto:aaecon@agecon.uga.edu).