



# Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
The University of Georgia

*Newsletter*

*Summer, 2006*

## UGA Agribusiness Major Offered at Griffin Campus - Apply by August 1



The University of Georgia's undergraduate agribusiness program will be offered at the Griffin campus beginning fall 2006. The program was approved by the University Council and the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. Course content for the new degree offering in Griffin will correspond to the same program offered in Athens, and standards for admission will also be the same. The application deadline for fall 2006 is August 1, 2006.

Undergraduate application forms can be downloaded from the Griffin campus web site at [www.uga.edu/griffin](http://www.uga.edu/griffin). Completed forms, with a \$50 application processing fee, should be mailed to UGA Admissions, Terrell Hall, Athens, GA 30602-1633.

UGA's Griffin campus is located 40 miles south of Atlanta. Academic degree programs in Griffin were first offered in fall 2005 and are expected to expand in the future as a new \$10 million Student Learning Center is constructed.

Governor Sonny Perdue and the General Assembly have included additional start-up funding for the new degree program in the fiscal year 2007 budget, and UGA has committed money for repairs and renovations to existing buildings as space is converted for teaching.

## Conner Connects, 2006



The annual Conner Connects Banquet was held on April 13, 2006 at the State Botanical Gardens, Georgia Visitors Center in Athens, Georgia. The banquet provided the opportunity for college administration, alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends to become better acquainted. Stephen Kuzniak, president of the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club, presided over the festivities. The keynote speaker was Cam Kirbo (BSA in agribusiness in 2003) who is currently working for Gary Black's political campaign.

We extend our thanks to the banquet sponsors for their generous support which contributed greatly to the success of the event: Gresco, Preston Cox, Ira Buddy Lee, Stephen J. Brannen, and Bill Kuzniak.

## The Rod Ziemer Lecture



James Duffield of the United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Energy Policy and New Uses presented the Rod Ziemer Lecture on April 4, 2006 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens, Georgia. The title of his lecture was "Energy and Agriculture at the Crossroads." There was a reception preceding the lecture and a graduate student sponsored luncheon following the event.

## Third Annual Tom Frazier Memorial Golf Classic



The Third Annual Tom Frazier Memorial Golf Classic was held Friday, April 14, 2006 at the University of Georgia Golf Course. The golf course was in excellent condition and for the third straight year participants could not ask for nicer weather. The AGR team consisting of Philip Brown, Jed Evans, Luke Lanier and Matthew Thompson won low gross honors shooting a score of 61. Low net honors went to the team of Randall Cofer, Bill Frazier, Jeff Mullen and Forrest Stegelin shooting a net 56. There was a strong showing by the AGR team with individual awards going to the following: Luke Lanier won two awards for closest to the pin; Jed Evans won two awards for long drive and one for closest to the pin; Scott Howard won an award for closest to the pin. We extend our thanks to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics for sponsoring the tournament and donating t-shirts for each participant, to Forrest Stegelin for donating a sleeve of golf balls for each participant and to the Georgia Agribusiness Council for donating tees and ball markers. A special thanks goes to Jo Anne Norris and Chris

Peters for their work behind the scenes in making the event possible.

## 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, 2006. 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



**Sarah Meier**, a fourth year agribusiness major and member of the UGA women's national champion varsity equestrian team, posted the highest score, 89.5, in the Southern Equestrian Championship (SEC) in April 2006.

### Award Winners - Department

*The following students were presented awards at the Conner Connects banquet on April 13, 2006.*

**Ross Oglesby** was presented the Outstanding Agricultural Economics Student Award.

**Will Horkin** was presented the Outstanding Agribusiness Student Award.

**Melisa McKoon** was presented the Outstanding Environmental Economics and Management Student Award.

**Sam Daniel** was presented the Outstanding Senior Award.

**Ally Barnes** was presented the Leadership Award.

### 2006 - 2007 Scholarship Winners



Georgia Farm Credit Associations:

**Christopher Chammoun**  
**Luke Lanier**  
**Joseph Holt**  
**Ward Black**  
**Ryan Grab**

Firor Memorial Scholarship:

**Stephen Kuzniak**  
**Susannah Martin**

Proctor Memorial Scholarship:

**Rachael McCall**  
**David Nolan**

Co-Bank Scholarship:

**Andrew Menaquale**

Tate Brookins Scholarship:

**Shannon Yee**  
**Kimberly Darnton**  
**Christopher Cunningham**

Georgia Cooperative Council:

**Betsy MacMillan**

### *Incoming Agricultural & Environmental Economics Club Officers, 2006-2007*

President	<b>Stephen Kuzniak</b>
Vice President	<b>Rachael McCall</b>
Secretary	<b>Cathy Strickland</b>
Treasurer	<b>Matthew Thompson</b>
Ag Hill Representative	<b>Brett Cochran</b>

## ***Washington Interns***

*The following students are currently serving as Congressional Interns in Washington, D.C.*

**Cade Bennett**, an agribusiness major from Nunez, Georgia, is serving in the office of Congressman Jack Kingston.

**Chris Cunningham**, an agribusiness major from Quitman, Georgia, is serving in the office of Senator Saxby Chambliss.

**Andrew Menaquale**, an environmental and economics management major from Roswell, Georgia, is serving in the office of Congressman Jim Marshall.

**Cathy Strickland**, an agribusiness major from Canon, Georgia, is serving in the office of Senator Johnny Isakson.

## ***Undergraduate Paper Competition***

*The following students won first and second place for their entries in the department's 2006 Undergraduate Paper Competition:*

**Victoria LeBeaux**, an economics major with a minor in agricultural economics, won first place for "Contingent Valuation Analysis: The Case of the Campus Stench."

**Sam Pugh**, an environmental and economics management major from Pine Mountain, Georgia, won second place for "The Effects of US Commodity Prices on Developing World Food Aid."

## **Graduate Student News**



**Fariz Ahmadov** was presented the 2006 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award from the University of Georgia at the Honors

Day program on April 26, 2006.

## **Graduate Award Winners - Department**

*At the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 17, 2006 the following students were presented awards:*

**Fariz Ahmadov** received the Claudia Depalma Davis Outstanding M.S. Student Award and the Outstanding M.S. Paper Award for "Perception of Decoupled Government Payments: Evidence from a National Survey."

**Frank Zhang** received the Rod Ziemer Outstanding Ph.D. Paper award for "Modeling Fresh Organic Produce Consumption: A Generalized Model Approach."

**Carolyn Zhang** received the Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award.

***The new officers of the Graduate Student Association are:***

President	<b>Elizabeth "Izzy" Hill</b>
Vice President	<b>Ozgur "Oz" Kaya</b>
Treasurer	<b>Orian Stavre</b>

## **Faculty News**



**Jeff Dorfman** was presented the Outstanding Faculty Award by the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club at the Conner Connects banquet on April 13, 2006.

**Cesar Escalante** was presented the Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award by the Graduate Student Association at the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 17, 2006.





**Stanley Fletcher** received the Dow AgroSciences 2006 Award for Excellence in Education from the American Peanut Research and Education Society.

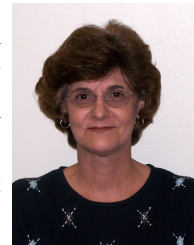
**Timothy Park** has received Board of Regents approval for promotion from associate professor to professor effective July 1, 2006.



**Greg Fonsah** was presented the 2006 President's Volunteer Service Award by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The award recognizes the best in the American spirit.

### Staff News

**Audrey Hudson** was presented the Outstanding Staff Award by the Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club at the Conner Connects banquet on April 13, 2006.



**Jeff Jordan**, co-editor, announced the publication of *"Interstate Water Allocation in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia,"* a comprehensive case study of the "Tri-State Water Wars" from 1998-2003.

For more information, log on to <http://www.upf.com/book.asp?id=JORDAF05>.

**Jo Anne Norris** was presented the Outstanding Staff Award by the Graduate Student Association at the Graduate Student Reception and Awards Ceremony on April 17, 2006.



**Luanne Lohr** spent two weeks in May 2006 at the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart Germany as a visiting lecturer for the Organic Food Chain Management M.Sc. program.

### Alumni News

**Laci Banks** (M.S. in agricultural economics in 2004) was honored at her workplace, USDA-National Agricultural Statistical Service in the Oregon Field Office, in March 2006 for initiative and self-motivation.



**John McKissick** has been appointed to an endowed professorship, Agricultural Marketing Professor, effective July 1, 2006. He has won the highest American Agricultural Economics Association's awards in extension economics

for livestock marketing.

**Jerry Bowman** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1972) a Forsyth County business executive, was appointed to the board of directors of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority by Governor Sonny Perdue.



**Tom Rodgers** (B.S.A. in 1967 and M.S. in 1969, both in agricultural economics), a retired UGA faculty member and administrator, was presented the Faculty Service Award at the UGA Alumni Association's annual awards

luncheon on April 28, 2006.



**Millage White** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1930), the oldest living departmental alumnus, celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 10, 2006.

### Obituaries

**Lawrence "Larry" A. Risse** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1961 and M.S. in Agricultural economics in 1962) passed away in March 2006. He was a retired research leader with the U.S. Department of Agriculture European Market Research Center in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. His work involved conducting research around the world on the handling, packaging and transportation of agricultural products, mainly fruits and vegetables. While in Europe, he researched methods of maintaining the quality of U.S. agricultural products from the time of production to arrival in the marketplace.

**Dr. O.B. Copeland** (B.S.A. in agricultural economics in 1938 and M.S. in agricultural economics in 1952) passed away on December 21, 2005. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He was a member of the Progressive Farmer Company Board of Directors who launched Southern Living Magazine almost 40 years ago and served as the magazine's first editor. His career with The Progressive Farmer/Southern Progress Corporation spanned 25 years, beginning as assistant editor of the farm magazine, becoming a company vice president and director in 1970 and retiring in 1982.

### Announcements

Next year's Conner Connects banquet will be held on April 19, 2007 at the State Botanical Gardens, Georgia Visitors Center in Athens, Georgia.

Next year's Tom Frazier Memorial Golf Classic will be held on April 20, 2007 at the University of Georgia Golf Course in Athens, Georgia.

### 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 <[janorris@uga.edu](mailto:janorris@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?**

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**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 <janorris@uga.edu>.**