



## NEWSLETTER

September 2007

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SAEA Web site <http://www.saea.org>

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We are well on our way toward another successful SAEA annual meeting. Paper submissions are due September 14. Six invited paper sessions have been selected. There were several excellent proposals; those chosen look to generate high attendance as well as high interest. Dallas is an easy-access site with plenty of ground transportation available from DFW to the meeting location. So make your plans now to block the dates. More information on registration and programming will appear in the December Newsletter.

One recurring question many have is that of membership renewal procedures. We do not send reminder notices for expirations. Each Newsletter has membership information, so you can easily join each year. Those who choose to join through AAEA should do so in a timely manner, so that your membership status is known by us at the annual meetings. And for your convenience, we have re-established the practice of having an SAEA state liaison for each in our group to facilitate continuous membership status. Some only join in years when the meeting site "is appealing". I urge each of you to consider what you sacrifice to save the very small membership fee. Our journal is continually improving and you will receive it for the year if you are a member (we go by calendar year). And the Newsletter will keep you informed of opportunities for continued professional development and access to our meetings at a reduced rate from "the street". So, stay current and maximize your investment in SAEA.

Investments bring to mind of our plans to increase our investment in our students at all levels. They are the future of our profession and our time and monetary contributions will go a long way in assisting agricultural producers and agribusiness professionals to successfully navigate the risk-laden waters of change agriculture faces. By these investments, we will help to insure competitiveness of our graduates in business, academics and government. Details of the program improvements and expansions will be finalized in the Executive Council's September 27<sup>th</sup> conference call and ideas for your contributions will be communicated in the next Newsletter. If you have a pressing issue for the EC to consider, please contact one of us as soon as possible so it can be considered for inclusion on the agenda.

Thank you for your continued support of SAEA and your dedication to service we give through our profession. See you in Dallas!

Sincerely,

H. L. Goodwin  
President

## ACADEMIC QUIZ BOWL COMPETITION AT THE SAEA ANNUAL MEETING IN DALLAS!!!

**Attention Undergraduate Coordinators and Advisors!** Once again, the SAEA will sponsor an **Academic Quiz Bowl** at the 2008 meetings in Dallas, Texas. Please consider bringing your students to this event! Bring one or bring 20, it does not matter; every student that you bring will be placed on a team! The Academic Quiz Bowl is an excellent opportunity for your students to participate in the annual meetings, and to network with both fellow undergraduates and faculty from throughout the southeastern U.S. We will also organize a **graduate program recruiting fair** for quiz bowl participants. Entry forms and other details will be posted on the SAEA webpage within the coming months. The tournament will begin at 8am on Sunday, Feb. 3, and continue through Monday afternoon, Feb. 4, 2008. Contact James Sterns, University of Florida, [jasterns@ufl.edu](mailto:jasterns@ufl.edu) or 352-392-1826 ext. 222 if you have questions.

**Attention Department Chairs, Heads and Graduate Program Coordinators!** Based on last year's successful inaugural event, the organizers of the Undergraduate Academic Quiz Bowl, with the support of the SAEA Executive Committee, will host a **Graduate Program Recruiting Fair** in association with the 2008 Academic Quiz Bowl tournament in Dallas, Texas. Refreshments and a sitting area will be set up next to the Quiz Bowl tournament room. Departments setting up displays and recruiting at this event will be charged a registration fee to support the cost of refreshments. There are typically 50 undergraduates in the Quiz Bowl and many of them are interested in attending graduate school. This will be an excellent opportunity to recruit from a captured audience – every student will be competing on Sunday, and many will be available between matches to talk to faculty about graduate programs. Contact James Sterns, University of Florida, [jasterns@ufl.edu](mailto:jasterns@ufl.edu) or 352-392-1826 ext. 222 if you have questions.

(Graduate Program Recruitment Fair Registration Form can be accessed on the Annual Meeting information page at [www.saea.org](http://www.saea.org)).

## 2007-08 SAEA COMMITTEES

The SAEA Executive Committee on behalf of SAEA members would like to thank the following volunteers who are serving on SAEA committees:

**Selected Paper Submissions Chairs:** Valentina Hatarska, Auburn University.

**Lifetime Achievement Award Committee:** Gary Fairchild (2008), U of Florida, Gail Cramer (2009), Louisiana State U., and Michael Reed (2010), University of Kentucky.

**SAEA Distinguished Extension Program Award Committee:** John Anderson (2008), Mississippi State U, Larry Falconer (2009), Texas A&M U., and Delton Gerloff (2010), University of Tennessee.

**SAEA Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award Committee:** Lisa House (2008), U of Florida, Jaime Malaga (2009), Texas Tech, and Kelly Raper (2010), Oklahoma State University.

**Masters Thesis Award Committee:** Darren Hudson (2008), Mississippi State U, Michelle Marra (2009), North Carolina State U., and Marco Palma (2010), Texas A&M University.

**Ph.D. Dissertation Award Committee:** Francis Epplin (2008), Oklahoma State U, Charles Moss (2008), U of Florida, Cesar Escalante (2009), U of Georgia, and Brice Dixon (2010), University of Arkansas.

**Poster Committee:** Andrew Muhammad (2007), Mississippi State U, Chris Clark (2008), U of Tennessee, Steven Martin (2009), Mississippi State U, and Michael Popp (2009), U of Arkansas, Chair.

**Undergraduate Committee:** James Sterns, U of Florida, chair; Kurt Stephenson and Dixie Reaves, Virginia Tech; Bailey Norwood and Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State U; Don Williams, West Texas A&M U; Joey Melhorn, U of Tennessee at Martin; Ernie Bazen, U of Tennessee at Knoxville; Corey Miller and Doug Freeze, Mississippi State U; Kenrett Jefferson and Godfrey Ejimakor, North Carolina A&T U; and Jenny Popp, U of Arkansas.

**Nominating Committee:** Past-president Damona Doye, Oklahoma State University; President, H.L. Goodwin, University of Arkansas; President-Elect, Bill Herndon, Mississippi State University; Kim Jensen, University of Tennessee; Richard Kilmer, University of Florida.

**Social Planner for 2008 Meetings:** Jeff Jordan, University of Georgia; Larry Falconer, Texas A&M University.

**IT/AV committee for 2008 meetings:** Larry Falconer, Texas A&M University.

**JAAE Editor:** Henry Kinnucan, Auburn U. (through June 30, 2007); Jeffrey Gillespie, LSU and Ashok Mishra, USDA-ERS (from July 1, 2007, for new submissions).

**JAAE Associate Editors:** Dragan Miljkovic, North Dakota State U; Øystein Myrland, U of Tromsø, Norway.

**JAAE Editorial Council:** Darrel J. Bosch, Virginia Tech; David L. Debertin, U of Kentucky; Mark Denbaly, Economic Research Service, USDA; Shenggen Fan, International Food Policy Research Institute; J. Matthew Fannin, Louisiana State University; Michael D. Hudson, Mississippi State U; Scott H. Irwin, U of Illinois; P. Lynn Kennedy, Louisiana State U; Carl Johan Lagervist, Swedish U of Agricultural Sciences; Ephraim Leibtag, Economic Research Service, USDA; Denise Mainville, Virginia Tech; Andrew M. McKenzie, U of Arkansas; Cathy A. Roheim, U of Rhode Island; Loren W. Tauer, Cornell U.; Norbert Wilson, Auburn University.

## SAEA PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINATIONS

**Thomas H. Spreen** is Professor and Chair of the Food and Resource Economics Department at the University of Florida. He was educated at Purdue University receiving a B.S. in Mathematics (with highest honors) in 1973, an M.S. in Statistics in 1974, and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics in 1977. Dr. Spreen holds a research, teaching, and extension appointment specializing in the application of quantitative methods and the marketing and trade of horticultural products.

**Research and Extension:** Dr. Spreen's programs are related to citrus economics, which has enabled him to travel to several countries including Mexico, Cuba, Brazil, Belize, China, Italy, and Spain where he has made presentations related to citrus trade and marketing. He has also conducted research related to bananas, sugar, tomatoes, and beef and dairy cattle. He is also the author/co-author of over 300 publications including 50 refereed journal articles, three books and editor of two books, along with numerous abstracts, research bulletins, and other publications.

**Teaching:** Dr. Spreen has taught mathematical programming and optimal control techniques at the graduate level and is the co-author of a text available online related to mathematical programming models. He has been actively involved in the graduate program of the Food and Resource Economics Department having served on over 100 graduate supervisory committees.

**SAEA Service:** Among the refereed journal articles are 16 papers in the *SJAE/JAAE*; numerous selected paper presentations at the annual SAEA meetings;

**Awards:** SAEA Lifetime Achievement Award, 2006.

*At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?*

*Goals as SAEA President:* As U.S. agriculture evolves, the institutions affiliated with the agricultural sector including the SAEA are confronted with new challenges. This includes stagnant budgets for agricultural research and extension, fewer commercial farms, and the increased importance of international issues related to both imports and exports of food and fiber products. The challenges confronting the agriculture in the south are complicated environmental and social/labor issues. As the agricultural economics society serving the southern United States, we must strive to provide timely and relevant information to decision-makers in both the private and public sector. We will also educate the future leaders of the food and fiber sector. Environmental and labor issues include concerns over immigration reform and the encroachment of urban areas into agricultural lands. These challenges mean that the Association must continue to conduct its functions, including publication of its scholarly journal, conduct of its annual meetings, and the presentation of awards of excellence to reflect the ever-changing face of U.S. agriculture. The implications for the SAEA are continued efforts to grow membership through reaching out to prospective members outside of traditional academic and other public sector sources. The Association should consider increasing student activities to recruit future members. The Association should also continue efforts to include the *JAAE* in the ISI Publications Citation Index. With rising meeting and publication costs, new sources of revenues should also be explored as well as alternative modes of delivery of services including the electronic avenues.

## SAEA PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINATIONS (CONTINUED)

**Hector O. Zapata**, William H. Alexander Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Louisiana State University (LSU); Ph.D. University of Illinois (1987); B.S. and M.S. LSU (1981 and 1983); Graduate Coordinator, Department of Agricultural Economics, LSU (1999-2003).

**SAEA Service:** First Vice-President, 1999-2000; Second Vice-President, 1998-99; organizer of Selected Papers, SAEA 1999; selected paper reviewer and coordinator, various years, 1987-2007; reviewer for SJAE/JAAE, various years 1987-2007.

**AAEA Service:** Member, Quality of Research Discovery Committee, 2006-present; reviewer for AJAE, various years, 1987-2007; chair and member, Quality of Communications Sub-Committee, 1999-2003; selected paper reviewer, various years 1987-2007.

**Research:** Subject matter interests include agricultural marketing, price analysis, econometrics, international trade and development. Over 100 publications, professional presentations, and consulting presentations worldwide, including 26 refereed journal articles, one computer package for statistical data management, and two financial simulators; extramural funding of over \$2 mln for domestic and international research collaboration; among the first researchers to publish on cointegration and Monte Carlo simulation in agricultural economics journals in the late 1980s; lead economist on LSU AgCenter International Programs/USAID project "Partnerships for Food Industry Development" in Southern Africa (2004-2010); delivered numerous presentations and moderated focus groups with stakeholders in Southern Africa.

**Other Service:** Reviewer for JARE, AJARE, ERAE (European), ARER, JFM, SER, Empirical Economics, Journal of Macroeconomics, selected years, 1987-2007. Chair and Member, Educational Policy Committee, LSU Faculty Senate, 2005-2007; Judge, Louisiana 4-H Career Interview Context, 2007; member, LSU Chancellor's Alumni Scholarship Panel, 2005-2007; consultant to various private firms in the U.S., 1987-2007; member, Council on Research, LSU Human Resources, 2002-2006; LSU Regents Grant Committee, 2004-2005; Review Panel, Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR/USDA-CSREES), 2000-2003; member, Teaching Quality Recognition Committee, College of Agriculture, LSU, 1999-2001; member, Graduate Council, College of Agriculture, LSU, 1999-2000; project leader, task force on agricultural reconstruction and development project for Honduras, LSU Ag Center International Programs/USAID, 1999-2001; Coach, LSU Men's Soccer Club, 1987-1998.

**Awards:** LSU Foundation Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award 2004; Sedberry Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching in the College of Agriculture, LSU, 2002; Honor Roll, LSU Gamma Sigma Delta Teaching Merit Award, 2000-2003; AAEA mention, Advisor to Outstanding Master Thesis Award, 1994.

*At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?*

The SAEA has introduced numerous initiatives in response to the continuous challenges the profession is experiencing. To lead the SAEA to continued success, I plan to use my previous experience to engage the Executive Board and members in the following areas: (1) Strengthen the Executive Board's current efforts to maintain membership and introduce initiatives to expand young professional membership. All graduate students in the Southern Region should be contacted about the opportunities and activities with the association and a creative system of incentives introduced to encourage current members to recruit new members; (2) Develop a plan for "efficient" networking. The annual meetings should continue to serve its physical networking function but a new emphasis is needed to facilitate physical and electronic networking with an intra and inter-disciplinary focus. A networking committee should coordinate a forward looking agenda; (3) Promote the JAAE to increase its multidisciplinary prestige in the social sciences. I will work with the Executive Board and Editors to maintain current efforts for listing The Journal in the Social Science Index and to promote the Journal within and outside the discipline. I plan to formally assess the scientific worth of the Journal and present an analysis of "what the journal contributions have been" and its future perspectives. Additionally, I will lead a study of the cost structure of the Journal with the goal of ensuring that the cost-per-page be affordable to all members; and (4) Develop initiatives that will keep members updated on important trends shaping the profession. I will facilitate the development of special sessions at the annual meetings on "megatrends" of significance to members and their future professional opportunities in research, extension and teaching.

## SAEA DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

**Andrew Muhammad**, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University. Ph.D., Food and Resource Economics, University of Florida (2000); M.S., Ag Econ, University of Missouri (1996); and B.S., Agribusiness, Southern University (1993).

Dr. Muhammad was on faculty at Southern University in Baton Rouge (2000-2006). He participated in a number of international partnerships while at SU including, partnerships with Universidad del Valle de Orizaba (Veracruz, Mexico) and Makerere University Business School (Kampala, Uganda). He joined the faculty at Mississippi State University in August, 2006.

**SAEA Service:** Selected Posters Committee Chair, 2006-2007; Selected Posters Committee, 2004-2007; Reviewer for *JAAE* 2007; Reviewer Selected Papers.

AAEA Service: Moderator and discussant for organized symposia and selected paper sessions, 2003 – 2007. Organizer of the Committee on the Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE) track session, 2007; COSBAE member 2000-present; COSBAE program coordinator, 2007.

**Other Service:** Reviewer for *The Review of Black Political Economy*, *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, and *Southwestern Economic Review*, and *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics* 2001-2007; Department of Agricultural Economics, Curriculum Committee, 2006-Present; Global Business Case Competition, Team Advisor, 2006; College of Business Tenure and Promotion Committee Chair, 2005; College of Business Curriculum Committee, 2002-Present; Department of Economics and Finance Scholarship Committee, 2002-Present; Research Project Advisor, Ronald McNair Research Scholar's Program, 2002; Economics and Finance Club Advisor, Southern University, 2000-2007; Southern University Faculty Senate Representative, 2000-2002; President, Graduate Student Organization, 1997-98.

**Awards:** Beta Gamma Sigma, Honorary Faculty Inductee, 2005; Teacher of the Year, College of Business, Southern University, 2002-2003; Food Distribution Research Society Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation, 2000; Food and Resource Economics Department, Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation; University of Florida, 2000; Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Multicultural Scholarship Award, University of Florida, 1999; National Milk Producers Federation National Dairy Leadership Scholarship, 1999; Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Outstanding Academic Award, University of Florida, 1996; George Washington Carver Fellow, University of Missouri, 1994-1996; Post Graduate and Doctoral Assistantship Scholar, University of Missouri, 1994-1996.

*At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?*

Overall, I was pleased with the quality of the last meeting in Mobile. I will continue in this effort to continue to improve the quality of our meetings. However, I do have two specific initiatives that I would like to help create to improve meeting participation.

As former chair of the Selected Posters Committee, the idea was given to me about an electronic posters website. Like the selected papers that become a part of *AgEcon Search*, this site would be similar in that it would allow for the citation of displayed research. Given the move by the AAEA to decrease the number of selected paper sessions and to increase the number of poster presentations, an electronic posters website is now needed more so than before, and as an organization we could possibly take the lead on this endeavor.

The SAEA needs to continue to concentrate on additional efforts to increase participation by graduate students and young professionals in the field. I have always believed that the employment center at the AAEA meetings is a key factor in determining graduate student participation. While we may not be able to have an employment center on the magnitude of the AAEA, I have attended many conferences much smaller than our own that allocated space for universities and employers to conduct preliminary interviews. I did notice in Mobile that ERS, University of Kansas, and another university had displays and representatives at the meeting; however, more can be done in this regard. As soon-to-be graduates become aware of the employment possibilities from attending the SAEA annual meeting, I believe that their attendance will greatly increase.

## SAEA DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS (CONTINUED)

**Allen F. Wysocki**, Associate Professor in the Food and Resource Economics Department at the University of Florida, was born and raised on an 11,000-acre family potato farm in Central Wisconsin. He received his undergraduate degree from Purdue University in 1984, and his Master's (1997) and Ph.D. from Michigan State in 1998. Dr. Wysocki gained industry experience as a co-owner and manager of Cousin's Produce Farm, a food distribution company serving Northeast Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula from 1984 until 1992.

Dr. Wysocki joined the Food and Resource Economics faculty in the summer of 1998. His agribusiness-related interests include: firm and industry-level strategic planning, and vertical coordination of firms in the changing agri-food system. His outreach efforts target community development and rural entrepreneurship education including marketing, human resource management (including sales training), and agribusiness instruction.

Dr. Wysocki has served his department, university, and profession since arriving at the University of Florida.

**Department and University Service:** Served as chair, co-chair, or member of over 100 graduate student committees; currently serves as the Master of Agribusiness Coordinator. Contributions to the University: Chair of the UF Budget Council; Chair of the Foodservice Advisory Committee; Served as a UF Faculty Senator for 3 years.

**Service to the Profession:** Authored or co-authored 12 referred journal publications; authored or co-authored over 55 extension fact sheets; current president of the AEM section of the AAEA; past president of the Food Distribution Research Society; past co-chair of the TLC section of the AAEA.

**Awards and Recognitions:** Florida Council of Cooperatives, 2007 Cooperator of the Year; Patrick Byrne Emerging Leadership Award, FDRS, 2004; Distinguished Teaching Award, Less than Ten Year's Experience, AAEA, 2003; SAEA Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award, 2001-2002.

*At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?*

When I was first approached about running for a director position in the SAEA, I was not sure about running. We are all busy and I wanted to be sure I could commit the time to serving our organization. In the end, it was the "little voice inside me" telling me that our profession is shaped by "busy" people who take the time to make a difference.

It is difficult to answer the question about what specific changes or new initiatives I would be part of in the next three years. I can promise a responsiveness to the needs of our members. We must continue to look for ways to harness our intellectual capital. In a world of tightening budgets and increasingly complex/interdisciplinary problems, the SAEA must examine the current structure used for our members to interact with each other, industry, and government. While our annual meeting serves as the primary method of bringing us together, I think we could explore additional methods of engagement for our members. For example, webinars targeted to sub-disciplinary interest groups such as sharing the latest research methodology with graduate students.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our profession. If elected, I promise to work hard to meet the needs of our membership.

## VOTING PROCEDURES FOR SAEA 2008 OFFICER ELECTIONS

Submit your vote electronically to [saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu](mailto:saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu) . All ballots must be RECEIVED by November 2, 2007 to be counted. Your name and contact information will be removed from the ballot before it is forwarded to third-party tellers for counting.

The 2008 SAEA officer election ballot you submit as a vote must contain no more than one name of the candidate in each office: President-elect and Director.

If you have problems casting your vote electronically, contact [saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu](mailto:saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu) .  
Subject header: SAEA Elections-Vote casting problem.

Do you have suggestions for future officers? Please submit them electronically or contact an Executive Committee member.

(For your vote to count you must be a member in good standing as of September 30, 2007.)

### WELCOME from SAAS

The 2008 SAAS Convention will be held in the Dallas Adam's Mark Hotel and Convention Center in Dallas, Texas, February 2-5.

The Adam's Mark Hotel and adjoining Convention Center in Dallas, Texas will be our sites for registration and meetings.

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

Adam's Mark Hotel, Dallas, Texas  
400 N. Olive Street  
Dallas, TX 75201  
Phone: 1-800-444-2326  
Fax: 214-922-0308

The Adam's Mark Hotel - SAEA Registration and the majority of sessions are held in this hotel. (location map may be found at [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)).

Group Rates: \$99/single or double; \$109/triple; quad: \$119

To Register: Call 1-800-444-2326 and request group rate for the "Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists."

Group rates are available January 30, 2008 through February 9, 2008. Check in is 3:00 pm; Check out is Noon.

Deadline for reservations at the group rate is midnight January 23, 2008.

Access the SAAS website at [www.saasinc.org](http://www.saasinc.org) .

# Southern Agricultural Economics Association 2007 Membership Renewal/Application

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Update My Address

*Membership is based on January through December calendar year. Journal subscriptions begin with the next issue after payment is received and end with the calendar year. No purchase orders or phone orders accepted.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Initial)

Agency/Company/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## SAEA MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY (check one):

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP** (Based on age on or before January 1 of year applying): Full benefits and voting rights open to those who are at least 55 years old.

\_\_\_\_\_ 55-59 - \$275      \_\_\_\_\_ 65-69 - \$195  
\_\_\_\_\_ 60-65 - \$225      \_\_\_\_\_ 70+ - \$150

## UNITED STATES

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30      \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 - Special Student Rate

Tax deductible donation to support SAEA student activities \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERNATIONAL (all other countries)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35

Payment may be made online using Discover, MasterCard or Visa at [www.saea.org](http://www.saea.org)  
then click on 'payment' and follow instructions (if paid online, do not send this form by mail)

OR

Make check payable in \$US to **Southern Agricultural Economics Association**  
and mail with this form to the address below

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