Welcome to the Registration Desk

Debra Belvin (left) and Marilyn Slocum at the Registration desk.

Selected Poster Sessions

2010 SAEA/SAAS ANNUAL MEETING
Orlando, Florida
February 6-9, 2010
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SAEA OUTSTANDING TEACHING OF A COURSE AWARD
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

OUTSTANDING TEACHING OF A COURSE

Award Committee: Jaime Malaga, Texas Tech, Chair; Kellie Raper, Oklahoma State; and Keith Coble, Mississippi State

Recipient: Dr. Shannon Ferrell, Assistant Professor, Oklahoma State University

Course: Agricultural Law

Experience and Background: Shannon Ferrell received his B.S. in Agribusiness, with honors (4.0) from Oklahoma State in 1998, and his M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State in 2001. He went on to receive his Juris Doctrate from the Oklahoma City University School of Law in May 2003. Ferrell practiced environmental and energy law with McKinney & Stringer from August 2003 to October 2005 and did similar work with Hall Estill Hardwick Gable Golden and Nelson between November 2005 and July 2007, at which time he joined the Oklahoma State faculty as an adjunct professor.

Course Description: Dr. Ferrell brings a practical, real-world approach to law topics that resonate with the students. His students often note that his ability to share experiences from his practice and his extension work underscores the relevance of the material. If you ask students what truly sets him apart they will tell you it is his ability to use current culture to draw them into the law. Dr. Ferrell’s instruction demonstrates true staying power as students progress in their academic and professional careers. He carries another distinction in his approach: a constant desire to elevate his own performance and the performance of all his fellow instructors, utilizing feedback from students and colleagues alike. Students relate the following: “He gives students the legal tools they need to be successful in the agricultural industry.” “He has developed a method of teaching that should be imitated by agricultural law instructors nationwide.” “Dr. Ferrell does not help students for his own benefit. He does it to see his students succeed, standing unselfishly in the shadows as his students shine.” Congratulations, Dr. Ferrell, on being a recipient of this award.
SAEA DISTINGUISHED EXTENSION PROGRAM AWARD
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

DISTINGUISHED EXTENSION PROGRAM

Award Committee: Larry Falconer, TAMU, Chair; Delton Gerloff, University of Tennessee; Deacue Fields, Auburn

Recipients: Oklahoma State University Master Cattleman Program. Damona Doye, Agricultural Economics and David Lalman, Animal Science, Program Coordinators and Darrell Peel and Clement Ward, Agricultural Economics.

Program Description: The Master Cattleman Program has had a significant impact on Oklahoma agriculture and our profession. Seventy percent of Oklahoma’s 86,000 farms have some cattle and over 50% of the state’s land area is in pasture and forage. In today’s dynamic environment, efforts to enhance decision-making for cattle producers are extremely important. Improving financial and production performance of producers is the goal of the MC program. The Beef Cattle Manual is in its sixth edition; approximately 8,000 copies have been distributed. Numerous theses, symposia and professional publications have supported and are supporting the Master Cattleman program and it has been recognized by national Association of County Agricultural Agents. Participants in the program are required to complete 28 hours of instruction to be certified as a Master Cattleman. Twenty-six county or multi-county extension units have a MC Program; 535 training sessions had been held through August, 2008. Selected comments from participant evaluations include: “The program is designed to increase profit and improve the quality of the end-product”; We have learned so much and met with other cattlemen; It’s better than a college education” and “This is the best program OSU Extension Service has put out”. Congratulations on receiving this award for the Distinguished Extension Program.
SAEA OUTSTANDING DOCTORAL DISSERTATION
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

PHD DISSERTATION AWARD

Award Committee: Cesar Escalante, Georgia, Chair; Bruce Dixon, Arkansas; and Jayson Lusk, Oklahoma State

Award Recipient: Dr. Lurleen M. Waters, University of Florida. Dissertation Advisor, Dr. Robert Emerson.

Dissertation Title: “Three Essays on Immigration Reform, Worker Self-Selectivity and earnings in the U.S. farm Labor Market”

Dissertation Description: This study evaluates how farm labor market outcomes have changed with the increasing presence of foreign workers in the wake of past immigration policies, assesses the implications of legal status for unauthorized workers’ wages and employment and evaluates the potential impact if immigration policy reform for farm workers’ earnings. The first essay evaluates the historical linkages between U.S. immigration policy and U.S. farm labor markets and how labor market outcomes have evolved following previous legislation such as the Immigration Reform and Control Act. The implications of legal status for unauthorized workers are assessed in the second essay. Foreign farm workers are found to jointly select into U.S. farm employment in an authorized or unauthorized status and into skilled and unskilled jobs, and these choices are found to have certain earnings implications. Results of the third essay show an overall positive impact of legalization on farm worker wage outcomes, and with expected sorting of the gains from legal status. Given the strong national and political interest on immigration reform and attendant issues for the agricultural sector, the study is a timely contribution.
SAEA OUTSTANDING DOCTORAL DISSERTATION
HONORABLE MENTION
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

PHD DISSERTATION AWARD - Honorable Mention

Award Committee: Cesar Escalante, Georgia, Chair; Bruce Dixon, Arkansas; and Jayson Lusk, Oklahoma State

Honorable Mention Recipient: Dr. Frayne E. Olson, University of Missouri. Dissertation Advisor, Dr. Michael L. Cook.

Honorable Mention Dissertation Title: “An Empirical Approach to Exploring the Role of Selective Incentives in Mitigating the Free Rider Problem”

Dr. F. E. Olson could not participate in the SAEA annual meeting (no picture available)

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MASTER’S THESIS

Award Committee: Michele Marra, NC State, Chair; Marco Palma, TAMU; and Michael Wetzstein, Georgia

Award Recipient: Brian Mwanamambo, Texas A & M. Thesis Advisor, Dr. Vicki Salin.

Thesis Title: “Financing Smallholder Agribusiness in Zambia: An Economic Analysis of the ZATAC Model”

Thesis Description: Mr. Mwanamambo’s research relates asymmetric information issues to the possibility of credit rationing. His comprehensive review of the literature in microfinance provides a foundation for exploring policies and practices of ZATAC, the Zambian Agricultural Technical Assistance Centre, which finances smallholder producers and agribusinesses. Mr. Mwanamambo’s findings demonstrate the distinctiveness of the ZATAC approach in moving its borrowers toward commercialization when compared to typical microfinance institutions in developing countries. The findings from quantitative analysis of the portfolio suggest an opportunity for credit policies to be re-considered, thus contributing to more effective financing of agriculture and agribusiness in developing countries.
SAEA OUTSTANDING MASTER’S THESIS AWARD
HONORABLE MENTION
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

Travis A. Smith accepts the award
From Dr. Bill Herndon, SAEA President

MASTER’S THESIS AWARD - Honorable Mention

Award Committee: Michele Marra, NC State, Chair; Marco Palma, TAMU; and Michael Wetzstein, Georgia

Honorable Mention Recipient: Travis A. Smith, University of Georgia. Thesis Advisor, Dr. Chung L. Huang.

Honorable Mention Thesis Title: “What’s Driving the Organic Milk Market? A Consumer Demographic Portrayal”

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SAEA OUTSTANDING JOURNAL ARTICLE AWARD
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First Place

The Highlanders:
Corey Bryant, University of Arkansas-Monticello;
Matt Okeson, Texas A&M University; and
Stephen Morgan (second from left), University of Florida

Second Place

The Cadets:
William Secor, Virginia Tech;
Chris Bryant, University of Arkansas-Monticello; and
Kristen Kovalsky (second from left), University of Florida

Third Place

The Toros:
John Lai, University of Florida
Kassi McKinney (second from left), Virginia Tech
LaTravis Brazil, Alabama A&M University
First Place

J. Matthew Fannin accepts the award on his and co-authors behalf from Bill Herndon, SAEA President

Second Place

Swagata “Ban” Banerjee accepts the award on his and co-authors behalf from Bill Herndon, SAEA President

Third Place

J. Matthew Fannin accepts the award on his and co-authors behalf from Bill Herndon, SAEA President
SAEA PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS LUNCHEON
Atlanta, Georgia, January 31-February 3, 2009

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BUSINESS MEETING
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**PASSING THE GAVEL**

Hector Zapata (right) takes over the SAEA leadership from Bill Herndon

**THANKING BILL HERNDON FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE SAEA**

Bill Herndon, the outgoing President, receives a plaque of appreciation for his service to the SAEA from Hector Zapata, the incoming President

Hector Zapata, SAEA President makes concluding remarks
- Mary, we are meeting in Orlando in 2010. Why?
- Gail, Orlando’s weather in February beats highlands!

The Business Meeting is Over!!

No disagreement here
THE BUSINESS MEETING IS OVER!!
MONDAY NIGHT STUDENT AND RECRUITMENT FAIR RECEPTION
MONDAY NIGHT STUDENT AND RECRUITMENT FAIR RECEPTION (CONTINUED)

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TUESDAY BREAKFAST KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Dr. Mark Keenum, President of Mississippi State University
Al Parks (left), the outgoing SAEA Director, receives a Certificate of Appreciation for his service from Bill Herndon, SAEA President.

Joey Mehlhorn (left), the Selected Paper Committee Chair, receives a Certificate of Appreciation for his service from Bill Herndon, SAEA President.

Bill Herndon thanks Steve Martin (left), the Selected Poster Committee Chair.

On behalf of James Stern, Al Wysocki (left) accepted the Certificate of Appreciation for extensive contribution to undergraduate student activities.

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Gail Cramer (left) chaired the Lifetime Achievement Award Committee

Mike Best (left) receives Certificate of Appreciation for chairing the Undergraduate / Quiz Bowl Committee

Larry Falconer (left) chaired the SAEA Distinguished Extension Program Award Committee

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT ORGANIZED SYMPOSIUM
Atlanta, Georgia, February 3, 2009
See the SAAS website for latest meeting updates and hotel reservation:
TUESDAY NIGHT RECEPTION AT GEORGIA AQUARIUM
TUESDAY NIGHT RECEPTION AT GEORGIA AQUARIUM (CONTINUED)
TUESDAY NIGHT RECEPTION AT GEORGIA AQUARIUM (CONTINUED)

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