

LES MYERS

President
Virginia Tech University
Agricultural and Applied Economics
208 Hutcheson Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0401
540/231-6301
540/231-7417 (FAX)
myersl@vt.edu

RICHARD L. KILMER

President-Elect
University of Florida
Food & Resource Economics
P.O. Box 110240
Gainesville, FL 32611
352/392-1881 (x304)
352/392-9898 (FAX)
Kilmer@ufl.edu

LOIS SCHERTZ WILLETT

Director
Food & Resource Economics
Indian River Research & Ed. Ctr.
University of Florida
2199 South Rock Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34945-3138
561/468-3922
561/468-3973 (FAX)
lwillett@ufl.edu

MICHELE C. MARRA

Director
Ag. & Resource Economics
North Carolina State University
Box 8109
Raleigh, NC 27695-8109
919/515-6091
919/515-1824 (FAX)
michele_marra@ncsu.edu

RANDALL D. LITTLE

Director
Dept. Agr. Econ.
P.O. Box 5187
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662/325-2884
662/325-8777 (FAX)
little@agecon.msstate.edu

STEVE TURNER

Past-President
Dept. of Ag. & Appl. Economics
University of Georgia
312 Conner Hall Athens, GA 30602
706/542-0852
706/542-0739 (FAX)
sturner@agecon.uga.edu

JOHN B. PENSON, JR.

Editor

LINDAS. CRENWELGE

Associate Editor
Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics
Dept. of Agr. Economics
352D Blocker
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-2124
979/845-5223
979/862-1563 (FAX)
JAAE@tamu.edu

KENNETH W. PAXTON

Secretary/Treasurer
Dept. of Ag. Econ. & Agribusiness
101 Ag. Admin.
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-5604
225/578-2266
225/578-2716 (FAX)
akpaxt@lsu.edu

LONNIE R. VANDEVEER

Secretary/Treasurer
Dept. of Ag. Econ. & Agribusiness
101 Ag. Admin.
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-5604
225/578-2266
225/578-2716 (FAX)
lvandeveer@agctr.lsu.edu

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as the President of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association during the association's 35th year. Steve Turner, University of Georgia, serves as the Past-President and Richard Kilmer, University of Florida, joins the Executive Board as President Elect. Three members serve as directors: Lois Willett, University of Florida, has one year remaining; Michele Marra, North Carolina State University, has two years left; and Randy Little, Mississippi State University, was elected this year for a three year-term. John Penson of Texas A&M University serves as Editor of the *JAAE*. Ken Paxton and Lonnie Vandever, Louisiana State University, share the duties of Secretary/Treasurer. The association is indebted to Steve Turner for his exemplary leadership and service as President during the past year. Bill Park leaves the Board following three years of service as President Elect, President, and Past President. Steve Halbbrook leaves after serving three years as Director and chair of our investment oversight activities. Both Steve and Bill demonstrated outstanding leadership in transitioning the association through changes in the *JAAE* editorship and the Secretary/Treasurer offices. Steve Halbbrook also provided the leadership for initiating a general SAAS Sunday afternoon session on farm policy. The SAAS Board has adopted the Sunday general session format for future meetings. Steve Turner provided strong leadership in assisting the new journal editors, in working collaboratively with the AAEA, in assisting the new Secretary/Treasurers, and in organizing the Mobile meetings.

The Mobile meetings were a success and the association is especially grateful to Ken Paxton and Lonnie Vandever for attending to the arrangements. The number of regular members and graduate students attending was 223, down 25 percent from last year's 298. The number of undergraduate students attending was 46 compared to 51 in 2002. We expected some decline from the Orlando numbers due to location and the tight budgets being experienced by many universities and ERS. This year we were privileged to have four excellent invited paper sessions. Bradford Mills (Virginia Tech) and Deborah Tootle (Louisiana State University) organized the session titled "Rural Infrastructure in the South: Trends and Challenges." Timothy Woods (University of Kentucky) organized a session on "Tomato Wars: A Look at the Trade, Structural Changes, and Competitiveness in the North American Produce Industry." Darren Hudson and Jayson Lusk (Mississippi State University) organized a session on "Teaching, Learning, and Problem Solving Through Economic Experiments." Diane Hite (Auburn University), Terry Hanson (Mississippi State University), and Krishna Paudel (Louisiana State University) organized a session titled "Water Quality and Quantity Issues in Southern Agricultural Systems: TMDLs, BMPs, and Policy Prescriptions." We express our sincere thanks to each of these organizers and the many presenters. Titles of all invited papers, selected papers, and posters can be accessed through the SAEA website.

This year coordination of the selected papers reviews and session organization was provided by Ken Stokes, Texas A&M University. Ken indicated that a total of 171 proposals were received and 150 (87.7 percent) were accepted. These numbers are almost identical to the number of submissions and acceptances for the 2002 meetings.

Ken is commended for his efficient and expert management of arranging a total of nearly 480 reviews. In addition, we had nine organized symposia sessions, down from 18 the previous year. Dan Rainey (University of Arkansas) coordinated the poster session. A total of 20 poster proposals were received of which 15 were accepted. This compares 17 to acceptances the previous year.

Continuing our tradition of recent years to have a reception/meal/entertainment event on Tuesday evening, we gathered at Roussos Restaurant for a seafood buffet and musical entertainment by Diane Hite (Auburn University) and her band. About 150 SAEA members attended the event and enjoyed a relaxing evening. A special thanks to Diane and the members of her group for sharing their talents and providing outstanding entertainment. Steve Turner, University of Georgia, organized and coordinated the reception.

The association takes special pride in awarding outstanding contributions to the profession each year. This year we were honored to recognize Steven Fuller (Texas A&M University), Andrew Schmitz (University of Florida), Hal Harris (Clemson University), Fred Justus (University of Kentucky), and Leo Guedry (Louisiana State University) for the Lifetime Achievement Award. We appreciate the hard work of Bill Park for his leadership and to the other members of the Lifetime Achievement Award Committee: John Holt (University of Florida), Richard Conner (Texas A&M University), and Gail Cramer (Louisiana State University).

John Penson and the editorial council selected the outstanding journal article for 2002. Recipients of the award were Sayed H. Saghayan, Mohamad F. Hasan, and Michael R. Reed for their article "Overshooting of Agricultural Prices in Four Asian Countries" that appeared in the April issue. All authors are in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Kentucky.

Bill Park also coordinated the Teaching, Extension, and Graduate Student Paper awards during the past year. We congratulate Daniel Phaneuf (North Carolina State University) on winning the SAEA Teaching Award. Thanks to Molly Espey (Clemson University), Mike Olexa (University of Florida), and Mike Ellerbrock (Virginia Tech), for serving on the selection committee. The Extension Award winners were Joe Outlaw, James Richardson, David Anderson, Steven Klose, and James Sartwelle, all from Texas A&M University in recognition of their education program on the 2002 Farm Bill. Thanks go to Nathan Smith (University of Georgia), Damona Doye (Oklahoma State University), and Charles Hall (University of Tennessee) for their service on the Extension Award Selection Committee.

Congratulations to Matt Stockton (Texas A&M University) and Newton Paiva (University of Georgia) for winning the Graduate Student Paper Awards. Matt's paper was entitled "Impacts of Sample Size and Quality-Adjusted Imputed Prices on Own-Price Elasticities Estimated Using Cross-Sectional Data" and Newton's paper was titled "The Effects of Mad Cow Disease on U.S. Live Cattle Futures Prices." We thank Wes Harrison (Louisiana State University), Martin Redfern (University of Arkansas), and Keith Coble (Mississippi State University) for their service on the selection committee.

The First Place Poster Award went to Senhui He and Stanley Fletcher (University of Georgia) and Arbindra Rimal (Southwest Missouri State University) for their poster titled "Confidence in Food Safety Regulations, Perceptions of Beef Irradiation, and Consumer Attitudes Toward Irradiated Beef." Second place was awarded to Mary Ahern (ERS, USDA), Kenrett Jefferson (Auburn University), and David Baker (ERS, USDA) for their poster entitled "Production Contracting in the South: A Comparison of Poultry and Hogs." The third place award went to Kenneth Paxton, Huizhen Niu, Roger Leonard, Ralph Bagwell (all from Louisiana State University) and Matt Bethel (Stennis Space Center) for the poster titled "Economic Feasibility of Using GIS and Remote Sensing Technologies to Make Management Decisions." Appreciation goes to Dan Rainey (Chair, University of Arkansas), Phil Kinkle (Oklahoma State University), and Enofiok Ekanem (Tennessee State University) for serving as the selection committee.

An important component of our professional activities centers on the undergraduate Academic Quiz Bowl competition. This year we had 46 students present representing 11 academic institutions. Congratulations to this year's Academic Quiz Bowl winning team of Kristin Gose (University of Florida), Heather Witney (University of

Louisiana at Monroe), and Sean Lett (Alabama A&M University). Thanks to Joey Mehlhorn (Middle Tennessee State), Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, junior adviser Ernie Bazen (University of Tennessee), and Bob Stark (University of Arkansas at Monticello) for their hard work in arranging a successful event. This year the winning team played the President, the President Elect, and the Past President of the SAEA. Despite intense pressure on the presidents, they were able win. Because they won, this event will probably continue to be part of the undergraduate program next year.

In other news, the project of digitizing past issues of the JAAE and the SJAE is expected to be completed this spring. We are also moving forward with the electronic distribution of the Newsletter. Each of you will have an option of receiving hard copy, but we fully expect most members will elect to receive it as an e-mail attachment, saving the association considerable money. Director Michele Marra is coordinating a Sunday general session for the general SAAS membership next year on the topic of costs and benefits associated with biotechnology. With the SAAS Board's approval of this topic, the association will have taken the leadership for this event in two of the past three years. The Executive Board will hold a business meeting on June 9 and 10, 2003, in Charleston, South Carolina. Any member having an item of business for that meeting should contact me or any other board member.

Tulsa, Oklahoma will be the site of the 2004 annual meetings. Richard Kilmer, (University of Florida) will coordinate the invited paper and organized symposium sessions. The call for invited paper sessions appears elsewhere in this newsletter. The deadline for proposal submissions is May 31, 2003. Please contact Richard if you have any questions or if you want to discuss possible topics. The invited papers are published in the JAAE. Calls for organized symposia , selected papers, and posters will appear in the next issue of the SAEA newsletter.

I look forward to working with many of you during the coming year. Thank you for your continued commitment to and support of the SAEA.

Les Myers
President

Call for Invited Paper Proposals
SAEA Meetings
February 14-18, 2004
Tulsa, Oklahoma

The Southern Agricultural Economics Association is soliciting proposals for Invited Paper Sessions for the 2004 SAEA meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The board seeks proposals that will be of broad interest to members and that will address emerging and anticipated economic and policy issues relevant to rural communities, farmers, agribusinesses, consumers, resources and the environment, and food safety/nutrition. Topics may have relevance to one or more of the basic research, outreach, and instruction missions. Proposals should include a session title and topics to be covered with preliminary paper titles, paper presenters, and discussants, as well as a brief rationale for the session and its importance to the southern region. Please list names and affiliation of moderator, presenters, and discussants with submission. No more than four people should be proposed to present and/or discuss papers. Prior to submitting an invited paper proposal, all proposed participants must agree to be at the meetings. Organizers of accepted proposals must submit a PowerPoint presentation for Board review of acceptability prior to the meetings (guidelines to be provided upon acceptance). It is the organizer's primary responsibility to correspond with and keep all participants on schedule. Invited papers are normally published in the August issue of the Journal of Agricultural & Applied economics. Proposals must be received by May 31, 2003. Email submissions with attachments are encouraged. FAX submissions will not be accepted.

Please send submissions to: Richard L. Kilmer
Food & Resource Economics Dept.
University of Florida
P.O. Box 110240
Gainesville, FL 32611
Phone: 352-392-1881
Fax: 352-392-9898
Email: Kilmer@ufl.edu

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION RESEARCH SOCIETY
2003 ANNUAL CONFERENCE CALL FOR RESEARCH REPORTS,
UPDATES AND POSTERS**

The Society welcomes submissions of research reports, research updates and poster session presentations for the 44th Annual Conference, which will be held October 26-29, 2003, at the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino in Biloxi, MS.

Research Reports are scholarly papers that focus on the results of major research efforts in any area of food distribution from the farm gate through retail demand. Reports will be evaluated and accepted on the basis of one-page abstracts, maximum, that describe the research and the relevance to food distribution issues. Presentations of accepted papers will be limited to 20 minutes each.

Research Updates are intended to serve as concise synopses of research or educational work recently completed, in progress, or to be undertaken within the next year. Anyone wishing to give an update should submit a one page, maximum, description of the update. Presentations of accepted updates will be limited to 10 minutes each.

Poster Sessions purpose is to better acquaint industry with innovative food marketing and distribution programs at universities that are resulting in strengthened partnerships between academia and business. Among other topics, posters can describe past and present challenges and successes and future plans and programs that are on the drawing board. Poster session topics will be evaluated and accepted on the basis of a 50 word abstract. The FDRS will provide a cloth-covered table in an area set aside at the conference. The presenters will be responsible for supplying their own poster backing material and an easel for the display of their posters.

Send all materials to: Dr. Delmy L. Salin
USDA-Economic Research Service
Room 5096 N
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 694-5170

All materials should be **postmarked no later than July 1, 2003**. Authors will be notified about the status of their submissions by August 31, 2003. For more information visit our website "<http://fdrs.ag.utk.edu>".

In order to be accepted as part of the Annual Conference, and to be published as part of the proceedings in the *Journal of Food Distribution Research*, at least one author must be a member of the Food Distribution Research Society and at least one author of an accepted research report and research update must make the presentation and be registered at the annual conference. Papers can be submitted to the *Journal of Food Distribution Research* for consideration as refereed papers. Authors of **research reports** that are accepted for presentation at the annual meeting **are required to send a hard copy and a computer disk (3.5") copy of the paper three weeks before the annual meeting to Dr. Forrest Stegelin, Dept. of Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Georgia, 300 Conner Hall, Athens, Georgia 30602-7500.**

Southern Agricultural Economics Association 2003 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.

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

NORTH AMERICA (U.S. Canada, Mexico, and Caribbean)

? \$30

Students Please Note: A special student rate of \$10 may be available through your department – see your Department Chair or Graduate Adviser for details. This special rate is paid through your department, not with this form.

INTERNATIONAL (all other countries)

? \$35

Please make checks payable to: SAEA
and mail to the address below:

Lonnie Vandev eer, Sec/Treas, SAEA
Dept. Agr. Econ. & Agribusiness
101 Ag. Admin. Bldg.
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Phone (225) 578-2266 FAX (225) 578-2716
Email: lvandev eer@agcenter.lsu.edu
Website: www.saea.org



Past President Steve, left, Turner receives a plaque from President Les Myers



Daniel Phaneuf, center, accepts certificate for the SAEA Teaching Award from Les Myers, left, and Steve Turner, right.



Matt Stockton, center, accepts certificate for first-place in the graduate student paper competition from President Myers, left and Steve Turner, right.



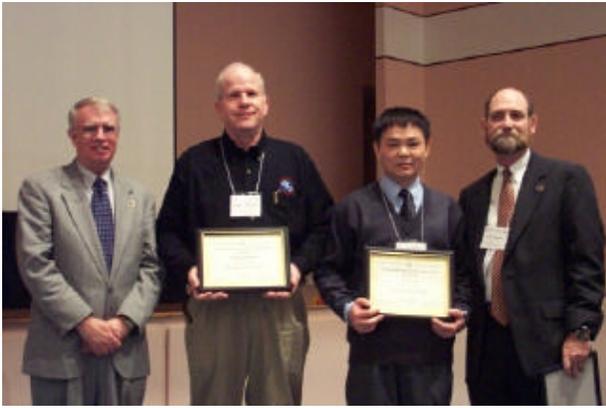
David Anderson, Joe Outlaw, James Sartewell, and Steve Klose receive congratulations from Steve Turner, left, and Les Myers, right.



Newton Paiva, center, accepts a certificate for first place in the graduate student paper competition from Les Myers, left, and Steve Truner, right.



Sayed Saghaian and Michael Reed, center, accept certificate for the outstanding journal article, 2002 from Les Myers, left, and Steve Turner, right.



Accepting certificates for first place in the poster competition from Les Myers, left, and Steve Truner, right, are Stanley Fletcher and Senhui He, center.



Pictured left to right are Ernie Bazen, Les Myers, Sean Lett, Kristin Gose, Joey Mehlhorn, Heather Witney, and Steve Turner. Quiz Bowl winners holding certificates.



Kenrett Jefferson, center, accepts certificate for Second place in poster competition from Steve Turner, left and Les Myers, right.



Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Leo J. Guedry pictured left to right with Les Myers, his wife Ann, and Steve Turner



Ken Paxton, center, accepts certificate for third place in poster competition from Steve Turner, left, and Les Myers, right.



Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Hal Harris pictured left to right with Les Myers, his wife Claudia and Steve Turner



Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Fred Justus pictured left to right with Les Myers, his wife Evelyn and Steve Turner



Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Andrew Schmitz pictured left to right with Les Myers, Chuck Moss and Steve Turner

2004 SAEA ANNUAL MEETINGS
Tulsa, Oklahoma
February 14-18, 2004

Condolences

Carol Cox Lee passed away on January 30, 2003, after a long battle with cancer. Carol Lee was the secretary of Bob Nelson and Walt Prevatt during their tenure as SAEA Secretary/Treasurers from 1999 to 2002. Carol Lee assisted our SAEA membership with countless requests and provided superior service to our association. Her friendly personality and "let's do it" attitude were an inspiration to us all. We at Auburn University and Carol's family thank you for your prayers, concern, and support during this difficult period.

**SAEA Newsletter
Going Electronic**

Effective with the December issue, the SAEA newsletter began electronic distribution via email notification. The newsletter is posted at our website: www.saea.org and members are notified via email that the newsletter is available. Hard copies will be mailed to current members who are unable to receive the newsletter electronically. Requests for distribution via regular mail should be sent to the SAEA Secretary/Treasurer.