Hope you are putting the finishing touches on proposals to be submitted for the upcoming meetings in Mobile! Preparations for the 2007 annual meetings continue and we hope to see many of you there. The deadline for paper, poster and symposia proposal submissions for the meetings is fast approaching: September 15. Calls for proposals are included in the June newsletter posted on the SAEA website: http://www.saea.org/.

General meeting and conference information can be found on the SAAS website, http://www.saasinc.org/, click on 2007 Convention at left or use the SAAS Mobile website, http://www.saasinc.org/Mobile2007/Mobile-Main-Pg.asp.

SAEA meetings will be in the Riverview Plaza Hotel and Convention Center. Lodging will be available at the Riverview Plaza Hotel ($109 single or double, $119 triple or quad). Reservation deadline is Friday, January 19, 2007.

SAAS’s opening session and reception is scheduled for Sunday afternoon and evening, February 4. SAEA will be hosting the Opening Session on Immigration Policy from 4-6 p.m. This session will include nationally recognized scholars addressing timely issues with regards to immigration, proposed policy changes (or recently implemented ones, depending on actions taken by the government in coming months) and their impact on southern agriculture and agribusiness, a very timely topic. Thanks to Fritz Roka, U of Florida, for his leadership in planning this session.

Remember that we will be introducing some changes in the meeting schedule, for instance, scheduling papers at 20 minute intervals to allow participants to migrate to topics of interest (see June newsletter for more information). One thing that will not change is the tradition for a social on Tuesday night. Thanks to Patricia Duffy and Walt Prevatt, Auburn U, for helping with local arrangements for it.

Biographical information as well as election “platforms” for President-elect and Director candidates are included in this newsletter along with voting instructions. Please exercise your voting rights! Thanks to our officer and board candidates for their willingness to serve the SAEA: Wes Harrison, LSU, and Bill Herndon, Mississippi State U for President-elect; Larry Falconer, Texas A&M, U and Steve Isaacs U of Kentucky for Directors on the Executive Committee.

If serving on the Executive Committee is not your cup of tea, but you think you might want to be an editor, see the call for applicants for JAAE editor(s) in this newsletter. Finally, the enclosed committee list names some of the many volunteers needed for the SAEA to accomplish its objectives. Thank you for contributing your time and energy for the benefit of all.

Meet me in Mobile!

Damona

SAEA Web site http://www.saea.org
Call for Nominations for Editor, JAAE

The SAEA Executive Committee invites statements of interest for the editorship of the Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics. The JAAE contributes greatly to the SAEA’s goals to foster the study and understanding of agricultural economics and its applications to problems in the southern U.S. and to increase the contribution of agricultural economics to human welfare. As JAAE Editor Henry Kinnucan’s term of office ends in December 2007, editorship appointments for 2008-2011 will be considered at the summer 2007 Executive Committee meeting. The Association attempts to cover many costs associated with the journal, but the position of JAAE Editor also entails some costs for the individual(s) and host department(s). The new editor(s) will assume duties July 1, 2007 to permit a six month overlap with the outgoing editor and facilitate the transition. As we have an outstanding journal, we believe that the professional rewards for serving as editor are substantial. Recent innovations include electronic submissions using Editorial Express. We encourage anyone interested to contact Damona Doye (damona.doye@okstate.edu) or H.L Goodwin (haroldg@uark.edu) by January 15. Those interested will be asked to complete a formal proposal for Executive Committee evaluation. Questions concerning what is involved may be directed to Henry Kinnucan. Recent previous editors in reverse chronological order are:

- Henry Kinnucan – Auburn U
- John Penson - Texas A&M U
- Chuck Moss, Jim Seale – U of Florida
- Charlie Huang, Mike Wetzstein – U of Georgia
- Barry Bobst, Dave Debertin, Angelos Pagoulatos – U of Kentucky
- John Brooker, Dan McLemore – U of Tennessee

Please consider lending your talents to SAEA as an editor as the journal is critical to the continued success of the SAEA.

Academic Quiz Bowl

Attention Undergraduate Coordinators and Advisors! Once again, the SAEA will sponsor an Academic Quiz Bowl at the 2007 meetings in Mobile, Alabama. 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. Plans are also in the works for 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 8 am on Sunday, Feb. 4, and continue through Monday afternoon, Feb. 5, 2007. Contact James Sterns, University of Florida, jasterns@ufl.edu or 352-392-1826 ext. 222 if you have questions.

Attention Department Chairs, Heads and Graduate Program Coordinators! Talk is cheap, but for 2007 we plan to act! The organizers of the Undergraduate Academic Quiz Bowl, with the support of the SAEA Executive Committee, are establishing a Graduate Program Recruiting Fair in association with the 2007 Academic Quiz Bowl tournament in Mobile, Alabama. In the coming months, we will be providing on-line registration forms for Departments and Graduate Programs that want to promote and recruit at the Quiz Bowl event. Refreshments and a sitting area will be set up in a room next to the Quiz Bowl tournament room. There are typically 50 undergraduates in the Quiz Bowl and many of them are interested in attending graduate school. This will be a good 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 or 352-392-1826 ext. 222 if you have questions.
2006-07 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:** Sayed Saghaian and Carl Dillon, U of Kentucky.

**Lifetime Achievement Award Committee:** Wayne Hayenga (2007), Texas A&M U, and Gary Fairchild, U of Florida (2008), Gail Cramer (2009), Louisiana State U.

**SAEA Distinguished Extension Program Award Committee:** James Pease (2007), Virginia Tech, John Anderson (2008), Mississippi State U, and Larry Falconer (2009), Texas A&M U.

**SAEA Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award Committee:** Robert Burton (2006), Kansas State U, Jeff Dorfmann (2007), U of Georgia, and Lisa House (2008), U of Florida, Jaime Malaga (2009), Texas Tech

**Masters Thesis Award Committee:** Wes Harrison (2007), Louisiana State U, and Darren Hudson (2008), Mississippi State U, Michelle Marra (2009), North Carolina State U.


**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.

**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 Bazem, 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 Kim Jensen, U of Tennessee; President Damona Doye, Oklahoma State U; Steve Turner, Mississippi State U; Eduardo Segarra, Texas Tech U.

**Social Planner for 2007 Meetings:** Patricia Duffy, Auburn U.

**IT/AV Committee** for 2007 meetings: Rita Carreira, U of Arkansas, Bill Herndon, Mississippi State U, Jim Novak and Walt Prevatt, U of Alabama.

**JAAE Editor:** Henry Kinnucan, Auburn U.

**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; Kevin C. Dhuyvetter, Kansas State U; Shenggen Fan, International Food Policy Research Institute; Diane Hite, Auburn U; 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; Andrew M. McKenzie, U of Arkansas; Daniel V. Rainey, U of Arkansas; Daryll E. Ray U of Tennessee; Cathy A. Roheim, U of Rhode Island; Loren W. Tauer, Cornell U.
SAEA President-Elect Nominations

Biography

R. Wes Harrison, Warner L. Bruner Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Louisiana State University; Ph.D. University of Kentucky (1994); M.S. Clemson University (1988); B.S. University of Florida (1982).


Awards: 2005 LSU Tiger Athletic Foundation Outstanding Teacher in the College of Agriculture; Award for Meritorious Teaching in the LSU College of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta, (2006, 2001, 1998, 1997); Award for Service to the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Graduate Student Association (1999); FDRS Presidential Award for Excellence in Research and Communication for Outstanding Published Journal Article (1999); Award for Service as President and Chair of the Coordination Committee (WCC-72) for Agribusiness Research Emphasizing Competitiveness (1999). Research: Agribusiness and food marketing; food product development, food safety and labeling; received over $185,000 in research grants; published 22 journal articles and other refereed publications; over 31 other publication; presented over 35 invited and selected presentations at international, national, and regional agricultural economics meetings. International experience include lead economist on USAID project titled “Partnerships for Food Industry Development” in Ukraine and Moldova (2000-2004).

Teaching: Introduction to Agricultural Business, Agribusiness Marketing, Economic Analysis in Agricultural Business, Advanced Agricultural Marketing. Other teaching responsibilities include Department Undergraduate Coordinator (2000-2002); Coordinator of the Department’s Internship Program (1994-1998); and Chair of Department Undergraduate Committee (1998-2000).

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

It is an honor to be nominated for President-elect of the SAEA. If elected, my leadership philosophy would be to provide stewardship and continuity for recent initiatives of the SAEA. In particular, I believe our annual meetings should continue to address issues relevant to the agri-food sector and rural populations of the Southern United States. Invited papers should continue to act as keynote sessions to address topics of relevance to the R/T/E programs of our members. Results from the 2004 member survey indicate that many new hires are in agribusiness, consumer economics, international trade, and natural resource economics. I support and would continue initiatives to target these young professionals. We need to offer professional development opportunities for these programs to encourage attendance at annual meetings and submissions to our journal. As president, I would strongly encourage the administrative structure of SAAS to select the most desirable meeting venues. Good attendance at our annual meetings is critical to retaining and expanding membership.

Our research, teaching, and outreach programs need to connect with the leaders and citizens of our respective states. As president I would encourage submission of organized symposia that include industry leaders or other non-academic panelists. This would be a good way for the SAEA to foster industry and community linkages in the southern region. Symposia oriented toward rural/community development or natural resources would be encouraged to include community leaders or experts from regulatory agencies as panelists. Teaching symposia would be encouraged to include student and/or industry panelists. Selected paper and poster sessions would continue to serve as primary outlets for the exchange of research findings, and/or teaching and extension methods. Student attendance at our annual meeting is also important. My first presentation as a graduate student was at an SAEA meeting and over the years many of my graduate students have presented at SAEA meetings. Student paper presentations, the student quiz-bowl, thesis and dissertation competitions should continue, and be expanded. Graduate students may also serve as moderators on selected paper sessions.
At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?

The SAEA needs to develop a comprehensive plan to change and adapt to the very different set of challenges facing agricultural economics professionals. Clearly, this plan will continue to be a work in progress that will require a strategy to be both flexible and nimble. If the SAEA can develop and implement this plan, we will be successful in achieving what I believe are the key elements for the sustaining the future of our organization. These crucial areas are: (1) Sustaining the value of SAEA membership to current members; (2) Creating value of SAEA membership to related professionals, especially in the private sector; and (3) Employing themes or tracks during annual meetings sessions (but are different from AAEA tracks). A first step in developing this strategy for the future is to invite a group of eight to ten public and private sector agricultural economists and related professionals to offer their insights about why and/or why not the SAEA has value in enhancing the careers of our potential members. The presidential survey and various task forces efforts conducted during 2004 should also offer directions and support in developing this survey. Second, these findings can provide the foundation for developing a survey to be administered to traditional members and targeted non-agricultural economics professionals. Finally, summarize the results of this survey to identify three to five key changes that the SAEA could adopt to attract non-traditional, new members without disenfranchising our current membership. Another idea that needs to be considered is to hold our annual meeting in conjunction with other regional agricultural economics associations and to carry out these meetings during the early summer. The SAEA needs to concentrate additional efforts to create an environment to enhance opportunities for young professionals and graduate students to development their profession skills. This would not only build loyalty to the SAEA but also expand membership through the goodwill and word-of-mouth support provided by these young specialists.
SAEA Director Nominations

Lawrence (Larry) Falconer is a Professor and Extension Economist for Texas Cooperative Extension, Department of Agricultural Economics and TAMU faculty member since 1992. He obtained his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from TAMU in 1992; with B.S. (1978) and M.S. (1980) degrees in Agricultural Economics from Oklahoma State University.

Extension Activities: Larry’s extension program addresses educational and applied research needs of agricultural producers, agribusiness, trade associations, and County Extension Agents. He has authored or co-authored over 225 publications related to farm management and marketing, made over 550 presentations and has been involved with grants and contracts totaling over $495,000 since 1992. Larry is a member of the Southern Extension Farm Management Committee (1998-present) and served as Secretary (1999), Vice-Chairman (2000) and Chairman (2001). Larry’s program has received national and international recognition with his appointment as Guideline Development Coordinator to the NCBA-IRM Stocker/Feeder Cattle Committee, along with invitations to be an instructor at the NCBA Cattlemen's College and keynote speaker by the Fideicomiso Instituido en Relacion con la Agricultura in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.


Honors: Specialist of the Year in Texas Agriculture Award (2003) presented by the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association, Epsilon Sigma Phi State Early Career Award (2000) and Editor’s Citation for Excellence in Refereeing (1999) by the American Geophysical Union. Larry has been a member of multi-disciplinary teams that received the TCE’s Team Award for Superior Service (2005), USDA Group Honor Award for Excellence (2000), TAMU Vice Chancellor's Team Award in Excellence (1994), and TAEX Team Award for Superior Service (1993).

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

Strong participation by those with different missions within the discipline is the lifeblood of our professional institution, particularly those students and young faculty members who are new to the profession. However, resources to support travel for professional improvement is a growing hurdle that tends to curb participation; particularly those of students and new faculty members. I think it is crucial that we support the current President and Board who have proposed initiatives designed to strengthen participation in the Association among teaching, research, and extension audiences through the use of new technology.

New communications technology is available that supports a range of opportunities such as Association sponsored virtual meetings or webcasts which would allow Association-wide participation without the expenditure of travel funds. I would like to support the adaptation of this technology as a supplement to annual meetings in order to showcase research results as well as present effective classroom teaching and outreach methods. The use of this widely-available technology would both advance professional communication opportunities and could serve as a model for strengthening professional improvement opportunities within the Association by boosting interaction with other disciplines.
Steve Isaacs serves the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, as Assistant Director of Community and Economic Development and Extension Programming and Extension Professor. This position represents 75% of the distribution of effort with the remaining 25% as an Extension Professor in Agricultural Economics. The Assistant Director for CED administers the community development activities of 410 county Extension agents, most of whom have primary responsibility in other program areas, namely, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Consumer Sciences, and 4-H Youth Development. The AD also helps coordinate the activities of 10-15 state level specialists in various departments in the College of Ag and School of Human Environmental Sciences. CED resources at the University may also reside outside the College of Agriculture. Therefore, an additional responsibility is to identify and coordinate the support of faculty in other colleges, including Engineering, Public Health, Business and Economics, and the School of Design.

Dr. Isaacs has been at the University of Kentucky since 1992. He managed a commercial farming operation for nine years prior to graduate school and continues to manage a diversified family farm in Kentucky. Dr. Isaacs has 225 print and electronic publications and has conducted over 600 Extension educational programs. He continues to teach Ag Management Principles at UK and has been active in undergraduate curriculum development.

Dr. Isaacs has won Extension and teaching awards at the state, regional, and national level. He has international farm management experience in Africa, Europe, and South America. He has served on both the Southern and North Central Farm Management Extension committees and the national FFA Farm Business Management committee.

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

The purpose and objective statement of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association includes this phrase, “…to promote unity and effectiveness of effort…” Not to diminish any other component of the statement, but this has been and should continue to be a major function of the SAEA. At the end of a term of director of the Association I would very much like to say that the organization has been more “united and effective” because of something I’ve done.

Unity and effectiveness may best be achieved when we communicate and share both needs and efforts. One thing that unites the Southern region is shared needs. While diversity of population and products is evident, the economic needs of profitability and sustainability are held in common. As much as possible, I’d like to see the Association identify specific shared needs and serve as a venue to share programmatic applications that are the shared efforts of members from around the region.

To encourage this sort of regional interaction it may be worth evaluating the incentives. We might consider designating awards whose criteria specify multi-state activity. Specific program tracks at the annual meetings to highlight collaborative multi-state work could be included. Regional committees have often used the annual meeting forum to convene subcommittees or planning activities. The annual meetings could provide an opportunity to “report” on regional activities and accomplishments.

“Do more with less” may be the most demoralizing statement of encouragement of the past decade. Many of us may have “less.” The issue is to use what we have as effectively as possible. That likely includes uniting on identifiable issues with a regional scope.
VOTING PROCEDURES for SAEA 2007 OFFICER ELECTIONS

Please visit the following website to make your selection <http://web.utk.edu/~aimag/election.html>. Please follow the instructions inside the web page. All ballots must be RECEIVED by November 3, 2006 to be counted. Your name and contact information will be removed from the ballot before it is forwarded to third-party tellers for counting.

On the 2007 SAEA officer election official ballot you will vote for one candidate in each office:

- **President-Elect**
  - R. Wes Harrison
  - Cary “Bill” Herndon

- **Director**
  - Steve Isaacs
  - Larry Falconer

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

If you have problems casting your vote electronically, contact Ms. Mary Gage at:

Subject header - SAEA Elections
saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu
Ms. Mary Gage
Department of Agricultural Economics
202 Morgan Hall
2621 Morgan Circle
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-4518
865-974-3716

WELCOME from SAAS

The 2007 SAAS Convention will be held in the Mobile Convention Center in Mobile, Alabama, February 3-7.

The Riverview Plaza Hotel (formerly Adam's Mark Hotel) and the Mobile Convention Center in downtown Mobile will be our sites for registration and meetings.

HOTEL INFORMATION
Property Undergoing Major Renovations
Deadline to register is January 19, 2007.

The Riverview Plaza Hotel (formerly Adam's Mark) - SAEA Registration and the majority of sessions are held in this hotel.
64 South Water Street, Mobile, AL 36602 (location map may be found at www.mapquest.com)
Group Rates: $109/single or double; $119/triple or quad; $150/parlor
To Register: Call 251-438-4000 and request group rate for the "Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists."
Check in is 3:00 pm; check out is Noon

The Mobile Convention Center is connected to The Riverview Plaza Hotel.
Southern Agricultural Economics Association
2006 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 continue one 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:

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