SAEA 2006

Orlando Meetings

Please make your plans now for attending the SAEA annual meetings in Orlando, Florida on February 5-8, 2006. The conference hotel is the Wyndham Orlando Resort, 8001 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819, Phone: 407-351-2420. The deadline to register is Friday, January 13, 2006. The SAAS Group Rates: $119 single or double; $139 triple; $149 Quad. For reservations, please call 1-800-421-8001 and identify yourself as part of the SAAS group to receive the group rate. Please note, cancellation must be made 72 hours prior to arrival date. You can receive this group rate 3 days prior to and subsequent to the event subject to hotel availability. The hotel is 16 miles from Orlando International Airport, however there is a shuttle available through. Mears Transportation Co., 1-800-759-5219 (about $29 round trip). As with prior years, we will have an SAEA Evening Social on Tuesday evening. Richard Kilmer, University of Florida, is generously helping us with arrangements for this event in Orlando.

There are a couple of items I would like to note with regards to the annual meetings. Along with the Farm Foundation, we will be hosting a special session on Sunday evening from 4-6 p.m. (just prior to the reception). The session topic is “The Future of Animal Agriculture in America”. Please see the flyer at the end of this Newsletter for more information. If you have additional questions about this session, please contact Steve Halbrook, Farm Foundation, at steve@farmfoundation.org. I would like to thank Steve Halbrook, Farm Foundation and Damona Doye, Oklahoma State University, for helping arrange this session. Second, our keynote speaker on Tuesday morning is Bob Young, Chief Economist for American Farm Bureau Federation. This promises to be a very interesting and timely keynote session. Please plan to attend. Many thanks to Charles Hall, University of Tennessee, for coordinating this keynote session.

Transitions and Updates of SAEA Services

Several exciting transitions are currently underway that the SAEA Executive Committee has been working on. First, we are transitioning the papers selection and review process into being online from submission through paper review and notification. We are using The Conference Maker System in this transition. I would like to thank Harry Djunaidi, Middle Tennessee State University, Selected Papers Co-Coordinator, for shepherding us through this process. Information about the online submission process is available at the SAEA home page <http://www.saea.org> under the Annual Meetings menu. Also, the SAEA will be providing an online option for the JAAE submission and review process online through Editorial Express. Again, I would like to thank Henry Kinnucan, Auburn University, editor of the JAAE, for spearheading this transition. The SAEA is also now offering the service of online payment with credit cards. I would like to thank Jeff Jordan, University of Georgia, for helping us make this transition. In addition, the SAEA web page materials and appearance have been updated.

Harvey Witt, University of Georgia, is now managing the web site. Many thanks to Wojciech Florkowski and Harvey Witt, University of Georgia. If you have ideas or comments regarding the site, please let us know. Also, the digitizing update of JAAE issues on AgEcon Search through 2002 has now been completed. You should now be able to access these more recent issues through Ag Econ Search at agecon.lib.umn.edu.
Elections for SAEA Executive Committee

At the end of this newsletter, you will find information regarding the SAEA Executive Committee elections. This year the elections are for President and Director. We have a fine slate of candidates and encourage every SAEA member to participate in the selection process by casting your vote. For your convenience, you may either vote via email or through a web page. Instructions for both of these options can be found in the announcement at the end of this newsletter. Please note, all ballots must be received by November 6, 2005 to be counted in the election. Your vote will be processed by Mary Gage, my secretary, and the contact information on completed ballots will be held confidential by her. The ballots with your name and contact information removed will be processed by a third-party tellers committee.

In closing, if you have ideas or comments regarding the services of SAEA, please feel free to email or call me. I look forward to seeing each of you in Orlando in February.

Special Session at SAAS Meetings in Orlando, FL
Sunday February 4 at 4-6 pm
Sponsored by Farm Foundation and the SAEA
All SAAS associations and represented disciplines are invited to attend this session.

The Future of Animal Agriculture in North America

Animal agriculture is undergoing fundamental change. This change is not limited to any particular size or type of livestock operation, nor is it limited to the farm. Every facet of the animal food chain--from genetics to retailer to food service outlet--is trying to adjust to the rapid pace of change.

Farm Foundation has sponsored the Future of Animal Agriculture in North America to take an objective comprehensive look at this industry. The objectives of this project are to:

1. Provide industry, government and community leaders with useful information targeted to the issues they will face in the near future;
2. Identify gaps in our knowledge and develop an agenda for research and education to fill those gaps;
3. Communicate key findings to the media and opinion leaders to increase public awareness and understanding of these issues; and
4. Engage private and public decision makers to address these challenges with innovative business strategies and public policies.

This effort has reviewed the research, examined the pressures and challenges, explored the economic, structural and policy alternatives facing the industry and investigated the consequences of key private business strategies and public policy decisions.

More than 130 industry, government and academic leaders participated in this effort. Disciplines represented on the seven project working groups include animal science, rural sociology, veterinary medicine, agricultural economics, business, agricultural communications and agricultural law.

A report on this multi-disciplinary project will be presented Sunday, February 5, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. Speakers may include Walter Armbruster, Farm Foundation; Hal Harris, Clemson University; David Blandford, Penn State University; Peter Goldsmith, University of Illinois; H.L. Goodwin, University of Arkansas; Helen Jensen, Iowa State University; Charlie Abdalla, Penn State University; Mike Boehlje, Purdue University. For further information, please contact Steve Halbrook, Vice President, Farm Foundation, at steve@farmfoundation.org.
Nomination Deadline - September 23, 2005

The deadline for nominations is September 23, 2005 for the:

1. SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

2. SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

   Including:

   a. Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award
   b. Distinguished Extension Program Award
   c. Outstanding Master’s Thesis Award
   d. Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award


Mail four copies of nominations by September 23, 2005 (postmarked, 1st class mail, no faxed nominations will be accepted) to:

Richard L. Kilmer
University of Florida
Food & Resource Economics
P.O. Box 110240
Gainesville, FL 32611

Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists (SAAS)
Orlando, Florida
February 4-8, 2006

HOTEL INFORMATION

Wyndham Orlando Resort
8001 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819
Phone: 407-351-2420

Deadline to register: Friday, January 13, 2006
SAAS Group Rates: $119 single or double; $139 triple; $149 Quad

RESERVATIONS: Call 1-800-421-8001 and identify yourself as part of the SAAS group to receive the group rate. Cancellation must be made 72 hours prior to arrival date. Group rates shall apply 3 days prior to and subsequent to the event, subject to hotel availability. Check in is 4:00 PM and check out is 11:00 AM.

Hotel is 16 miles from Orlando International Airport. Hotel Shuttle - Round-trip $29/pp, One-way $15/pp. Prices subject to change. Mears Transportation Co., 1-800-759-5219. Taxi cost is approximately $31.00 one way.


At the end of your term, what changes/new initiatives would you like to have helped create?
There are currently three areas I would like to address in my year as SAEA president: 1) Expand membership, in terms of both numbers and breadth; 2) Increase amount and quality of professional exposure for young agricultural economists; and 3) Implement targeted or thematic meetings to address demands of our varied constituencies. The presidential survey of last year was a great beginning in identifying opportunities for SAEA’s growth. Further insights can be obtained through careful consideration of these survey results. I would like to conduct a detailed market study of agricultural economists who have graduated since 1990 to identify what they are looking for in a professional organization and try to expand this segment of our membership. There are other potential member pools in the food industry and policy-making bodies of state and federal governments that are worthy of exploration. Regarding professional exposure, I recall with great fondness my first interaction with the SAEA as a Master’s student. In fact, my decision to go into the profession was in large part determined by the positive experience I was afforded as a student. At the same time, we must ensure that the stature of the papers presented at our meetings is such that our colleagues continue to enhance their careers by active participation in our annual meetings. Thematic meetings are one avenue to more actively engage participants at annual SAEA events and would serve to peak interest in focus areas. This might involve the board selecting one invited session to address a specific area (e.g., active participation in policy development at the local, state and national levels).

Last year’s focus of the session on teaching excellence has set a good template. I also believe we may need to consider, at least biennially, meetings separate from SAAS. This could afford us many advantages. A smaller group allows a broader array of meeting venues. And flexible meeting dates from year to year would capture a more diverse group of attendees.

Sukant Misra, Associate Dean for Research, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; Professor, Dept. of Agricultural & Applied Economics; and Associate Director, Cotton Economics Research Institute, Texas Tech Univ.; M.S. and Ph.D. (Agricultural Economics), Mississippi State Univ.; Post Doc., Univ. of Georgia, 1990-1993. Subject matter interest: Cotton Economics and Price Analysis.

SAEA Service: Student Comm., 1995/96; Poster Selection and Award Comm., 1998/01; reviewer, coordinator, and moderator of selected papers, various years; reviewer for SJAЕ/JAAЕ; regular attendance (1989/04) and presentations at the annual meetings. AAEA Service: Advisor, Student Section 1997/00; reviewer, coordinator and moderator of selected papers, various years; regular attendance and presentations at the annual meetings. Awards: New Faculty Award, 1997; Outstanding Professor Awards, 1996 and 1997; Inducted to Teaching Academy, TTU, 1998; Poster Awards at the SAEA, 1996 and 1997; Nominated for the WAEA and SAEA Teaching Awards, 2000; WAEA Outstanding M.S. Thesis Advisor, 1999. Teaching and Advising: Fundamentals of Agricultural Economics, Price Analysis, Statistics, Research Methodology, Agribusiness Analysis, Demand Analysis; Major Advisor, 17 MS and Ph.D. students. Research Dissemination: Over 100 publications, including 34 journal articles; over 40 reviewed presentations at professional meetings; Invited speaker at
various workshops in U.S., Germany, Switzerland, Indonesia, and India.


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

I feel that the SAEA should play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the academic environment by facilitating discussion among stakeholders on issues that directly affect our relevancy. Thus, I would encourage that in addition to providing a forum for dissemination of knowledge and interaction among stakeholders, the SAEA should take the responsibility in developing an agenda to globalize our research, teaching and outreach programs. To maintain our relevancy in this globalized environment, we must urgently find ways to increase the level of engagement of our students, teaching faculty, research scientists, and extension personnel in addressing global dimensions of food and fiber industries, and the natural resource base. We should try to accomplish this by dedicating invited paper sessions and symposia at the annual meetings to focus on such issues. I am a big fan of the undergraduate student activities and would like to continue to grow the interest and participation of undergraduate students in SAEA's program areas. I would also like to strengthen our graduate student activities by initiating a graduate student section.

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**Alfred L. Parks** is Professor of Agricultural Economics, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences (CAHS) and Research Director, Cooperative Agricultural Research Center, Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX. He is a native of New Edinburg, Arkansas and received a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. He received both the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Parks joined the faculty at Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA in 1972 and while at Southern University, he served for two (2) years at the University of Yaounde in Cameroon, West Africa. He joined the faculty at Prairie View A&M University in 1977 as a Department Head of Agricultural Economics. Over the past 28 years he has served in various capacities, including his current capacity as Associate Dean and Research Director of the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center. He has made outstanding contributions to the field of Agriculture. He has authored over 100 articles, abstracts, book chapters, and manuscripts. He has received numerous awards for his teaching and research excellence and has been recognized by many professional organizations for his work as a academic mentor, research leader, and administrator.

In addition to professional duties, he serves on many local, state, national, and international committees of professional organizations, advisory committees, task forces, and executive boards. He serves or has served in such roles as Chair, AAEA Awards Committee 1994-96; Founding Member of COSBAE (served as Chair 1993-94); Member, AAEA Masters thesis Awards Committee 1992-94; Member, AAEA, Ph.D. Dissertation Awards Committee, 1994-96; Founding Member of C-FARE; Member, various committees with the Texas Department of Agriculture; Member, Advisory Committee, USDA/GIPSA; Member, Council of Agricultural Administrators, Texas A&M University System, Agriculture Program; immediate past chair of the Association of Research Directors, Inc. (ARD), Member of Executive Team of the USDA/1890 Task Force, Executive Committee member of the (NASULGC) Commission on Food, Environment and Renewable Resources (CFERR), Chair-Elect of the Experimental Station Committee on Policy (ESCOP), Past-Chair of the Advisory Board of the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC), and many other committees to numerous to list here.

He has traveled extensively throughout the United States (he has visited all 50 states), Canada, Mexico, Europe, Central America, and West Africa. He is active in his local community and in his Church. He is married to the former Gwendolyn M. Davis of Houston and they have seven (7) children and eight (8) grandsons.

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

During my term I would like to assist in creating new initiatives or strategies that respond to emerging new challenges facing the Agricultural Economics profession in general and the SAEA in particular.
Fisseha Tegegne received B.A., and M.Sc in Economics from Ethiopia and the United Kingdom respectively and Ph.D. with emphasis in Resource Economics and Economic Development from Michigan State University. Dr. Tegegne was Chair, Department of Economics, Addis Ababa University, 1981-1983. Over the years he has been teaching undergraduate and graduate courses including in the areas of Resource and Environmental Economics and Management, Food Economics and Policy as well as Economic Development. His areas of research interest include production, management, and marketing issues pertaining to small farms, assessing government and non government food assistance programs and welfare reform under changing policy and economic conditions and biotechnology in relation to producers and consumers. He has been serving on various national, regional and professional association committees such the American Agricultural Economics Association, the Experiment Station Committee for Organization and Policy, Social Science Sub Committee (ESCORD SSSC) as representative of 1890 Universities in the field of Agricultural Economics; Southern Rural Development Center Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Advisory Team member; editorial board member: Review of Agricultural Economics, and Journal of Food Distribution Research. Dr Tegegne was Fellow of the Ford and the Rockefeller Foundations, 1981-1982 and 1983–1988 respectively. He was recipient of the 2004 Excellence in Research award from the Southern Rural Sociological Association and visiting minority scholar at the Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin, Madison in 2003. Dr. Tegegne is currently Research Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Economics and Policy Research Team in the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Research at Tennessee State University.

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

A key challenge facing many professional associations is increasing the number of members. This is important because it has implications for the future of such associations which provide forum for sharing of results that can stimulate further work and broaden scholarship. If elected, I will do my best to contribute to an initiative that will enhance growth of SAEA membership.

VOTING PROCEDURES for SAEA 2006 OFFICER ELECTIONS

This year the SAEA is offering two options for voting in the SAEA Officer Elections. First, you may complete the ballot and email it to Ms. Mary Gage at the email address provided below. Please make the subject header of your email SAEA Elections. Second, you may visit the following website to make your selection <http://web.utk.edu/~aimag/election.html>. If you vote via internet, please follow the instructions inside the web page. Regardless of the method you select, all ballots must be RECEIVED by November 6, 2005 to be counted. Your name and contact information will be removed from the ballot before it is forwarded to a third-party tellers committee for counting.

OFFICIAL BALLOT
2006 SAEA OFFICER ELECTION
VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE IN EACH OFFICE BY MARKING AN “X” IN THE SPACE BESIDE THE NAME OF YOUR CHOICE:

President-Elect
H.L. Goodwin
Sukant Misra

Director
Albert Parks
Fisseha Tegegne

Do you have suggestions for future officers? Please list them below.

Email to: Ms. Mary Gage at saeaelect@mail.ag.utk.edu
Subject header-SAEA Elections

If you have problems getting your vote cast electronically, Ms. Gage’s contact information is:
Ms. Mary Gage
Department of Agricultural Economics
202 Morgan Hall
2621 Morgan Circle
University of Tennessee
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