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Our recent annual meeting in Dallas was a tremendous success. The meeting was well attended with 167 faculty (up from 163 in 2013), 95 graduate students (up from 88 in 2013), and 126 undergraduate students (up from 93 in 2013).

As always, Jeff Jordan did a great job in coordinating all of the meeting logistics, including facilities, meals, and receptions. Thanks to Debra Belvin, Harvey Witt, and Blake Bennett for working the registration desk and to Blake for facilitating the Monday evening student reception and the Tuesday evening reception at the Dallas Federal Reserve. Thanks also to John VanSickle who assisted with the planning and coordination of the annual meeting program. Saleem Shaik provided invaluable service in organizing the selected paper submission and review process. 182 selected paper submissions were received for the annual meeting of which 150 were accepted for presentation. We also had 26 selected poster presentations this year. The outstanding poster award winners are listed later in this newsletter.

This year the SAEA transitioned from invited paper sessions to invited symposia sessions. Many thanks to Glynn Tonsor, Rudy Nayga, and David Bessler who very graciously agreed to organize invited symposium sessions for the annual meeting. Each of these sessions focused on topics of interest to a broad segment of our members.

At the annual meeting, Tun-Hsiang (Edward) Yu (University of Tennessee), Nicole Widmar (Purdue University), and Matthew Interis (Mississippi State University) were recognized as 2014 SAEA Emerging Scholar award winners. Please join me in congratulating these outstanding early career professionals.

We had a record-setting year for quiz bowl with 126 students participating from 21 different universities. Since 2011, at least 88 students have participated in quiz bowl each year (the previous record was 94 students in 2011). Compare this to the period 2005-2010 when quiz bowl participation varied between 44 and 65 students per year. The members of the winning quiz bowl teams are included under the list of award winners presented later in this newsletter.

For the past several years, Corey Miller has written the quiz bowl questions and organized the competition at the annual meeting. In January of this year, Corey left Mississippi State University to accept a position in the office of the Mississippi State Economist. On behalf of the SAEA, I would like to express both our appreciation for Corey's many years of service and our best wishes for his new endeavors. When it became clear, that Corey would not be able to attend the 2014 annual meeting, Michael Best graciously agreed to step in and organize the quiz bowl competition. Many thanks to Michael, the quiz bowl advisors for each of the participating schools, and all who volunteered to serve as moderators, judges, or computer operators for the quiz bowl competition.

The Association income statement for January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 indicated income of \$125,867.54 and expenses of \$135,171.97. Expenses exceeded income due to a few "one-off" expenses including new quiz bowl equipment and the hiring of a consultant to work with the Executive Committee on negotiating a new publishing contract for our journal. Despite expenses exceeding income for 2013, the association remains financially sound. Due to growth in our investment account, total assets grew from \$170,218.84 at the end of 2012 to \$190,435.01 at

the end of the 2013. The Association has no liabilities.

At the meeting in Dallas, Andrew McKenzie and Krishna Paudel, editors of the *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics* (JAAE), reported that the journal handled 154 manuscripts during 2013, 93 of which were new submissions. The average turnaround time for manuscripts was an impressive 51 days. The 2013 award for Outstanding JAAE Journal Article was presented to Jeffrey J. Reimer, Xiaojuan Zheng, and Mark J. Gehlhar for their article titled "Export Demand Elasticity Estimation for Major U.S. Crops."

In other JAAE news, seven members have rotated off the editorial council. These are Giovanni Anania, Jean Paul Chavas, Patricia Duffy, Barry Goodwin, Catherine Kling, Jutta Roosen and Dawn Thilmany McFadden. These individuals are being replaced by Kaliappa Kalirajan, Craig Landry, Ashok Mishra, Rudy Nayga, James Richardson, Alexander Sarris, and Loren Tauer. Please join me in thanking those who are rotating off the editorial council for their service to JAAE. Many thanks as well to the incoming members of the editorial council for their willingness to serve.

The JAAE is currently self-published by the SAEA. We contract with a technical editor and a press to produce both printed issues and pdf files of individual articles that are available online via AgEcon Search. These contracts expire at the end of 2014. As was discussed at the SAEA business meeting in Dallas, the Executive Committee has entered into negotiations with a major publisher to make the JAAE, beginning in 2015, the first fully online, open access, U.S. agricultural economics journal. The Executive Committee and JAAE Editors believe that this change will facilitate our goal of eventually having the JAAE indexed in Thomson Reuters (formerly ISI) Web of Knowledge while also maintaining (and likely improving) the financial viability of our journal. Once an agreement is reached, the SAEA and the publisher will launch a major educational effort to inform members about the benefits offered through this new partnership. Stay tuned for more information.

I would like to thank Parr Rosson, Past-President, and Marco Palma, Director, who each completed their terms at the 2014 annual meeting. We appreciate your service to the Association. Please welcome Ron Rainey, University of Arkansas, as President-elect and Jody Campiche, Oklahoma State University, as a new Director. As officer elections approach this summer, please think about possible nominees. We will be electing a President-elect and one Director. Each will serve a three year term. If you have nominations, please send them to me or any other member of the Executive Committee. Also, I am in the process of filling several SAEA committee openings. If you are interested in serving on an SAEA committee (listed later in this newsletter), please contact me at barnett@agecon.msstate.edu

Please mark your calendar now for next year's annual meeting, which will be held in Atlanta, **January 31 – February 3, 2015.**

Barry Barnett, SAEA President

Award Winners at the 2014 SAEA Meeting in Dallas, Texas

SAEA Lifetime Achievement Awards

Mary Marchant, Virginia Tech University
John Nichols, Texas A&M University
Kim Anderson, Oklahoma State University

Emerging Scholars Awards

Tun-Hsiang (Edward) Yu, University of Tennessee
Nicole Widmar, Purdue University

Matthew Interis, Mississippi State University

Outstanding Extension Program Awards

Team Award- Dean McCorkle, Daniel Hanselka, David Anderson, Steven Klose, John Robinson and Mark Waller, *Texas A&M University Extension Economic Impact Team*.
Individual Award – Glynn Tonsor, Kansas State University. *Livestock and Meat Marketing Program*.

Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award

Joshua Detre, Louisiana State University. *Introduction to Agricultural Business* (AGEC 1003)

Outstanding Journal Article

Jeffrey J. Reimer, Xiaojuan Zheng, and Mark J. Gehlhar. “Export Demand Elasticity Estimation for Major U.S. Crops.” *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, 44,4(November 2012):501-515.

Outstanding M.S. Thesis Award

Shengfei Fu, University of Georgia. Octavio Ramirez and Gregory Colson Advisors. “Crop Insurance Savings Accounts”

Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation Award

Mario Andres Fernandez Cadena, Texas A&M University. Bruce McCarl Advisor. “Decadal Climate Variability: Economic Implications in Agriculture and Water in the Missouri River Basin.”

Outstanding Poster Awards

First place - Alan Young, Texas A&M University, Joe Paschal, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, and Steven Klose, Texas A&M University, “*Economic Impact of Beef Cattle Best Management Practices: Restocking Strategies*.”

Second place - Joe Lowe, Christopher Boyer, Andres Griffith, Gary Bates, Patrick Keyser, and James Larson, all from the University of Tennessee, “*Cost of Developing Dairy Heifers on Native Warm Season Grasses*.”

Third place - Amadou Gouzaye and Francis Epplin, Oklahoma State University, “*Valuing the Seed of an Improved Switchgrass Variety*.”

Quiz Bowl Tournament Winners

1st place team: "Mountineers" - Dax Havrilak, Texas A&M Commerce, Joanna King, Mississippi State, Tory Mogler, Iowa State, and Rebekah Slabach, Virginia Tech.

2nd place team: " Aces " - Macy Herzog, Texas A&M, Chelsie Milam, West Texas A&M, Wes Steenburgh, Virginia Tech, and Daniella Straathof, University of Kentucky.

3rd place team: “Fightin’ Blue Hens ” - Adam Hancock, University of Kentucky, Caroline Kelsoe Mississippi State, Natoshia Minor, University of Missouri, and Marcie Stevenson, Iowa State.

Photos from the Annual Meeting

Photos from the annual meeting are available at <https://saea2014annualmeeting.shutterfly.com/4>

Call for 2015 Emerging Scholars Awards

The Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) is soliciting nominations for 2015

“Emerging Scholar” awards. These awards are designed to highlight the work of high-performing early-career professionals in our profession. To be eligible, an applicant must (on the date that the nomination is due) be no more than 7 years from having received a terminal degree. Previous Emerging Scholar award winners are not eligible to be nominated again. Nominations are encouraged from both within and outside the Southern region of the United States. Each institution however is limited to no more than two nominations. Nominees need not be current members of the SAEA.

Those selected for this award will be expected to present in an invited symposia session at the 2015 annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia January 31 - February 3. Presentations may be empirical or conceptual and can address topics related to research, extension, or instruction. All presentations are expected to be of high quality and to address issues on the frontier of knowledge in a given subject matter area. Recipients of the Emerging Scholar awards will be recognized at the SAEA business meeting and will receive a \$250 honorarium.

Nominations must include a brief statement (no more than one page) regarding the nominee’s qualifications, a one-page presentation proposal, and a two-page curriculum vitae. Nominations should be submitted via an e-mail attachment sent to Ron Rainey at the University of Arkansas (rrainey@uaex.edu) with "Emerging Scholar Nomination" as the subject.

Nominations must be received by May 9, 2014.

2015 SAEA Annual Meetings

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us at the 2015 SAEA Annual Meetings to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, January 31 – February 3, 2015.

What – SAEA Annual Meeting

Where – Westin Peachtree Plaza

When – January 31-February 3, 2015

Why – Opportunities to network and share your work.

Access the SAAS website at www.saasinc.org for more information about the 2015 meetings and the meeting site as it becomes available.

2014-2015 SAEA COMMITTEES

Much of the important work our association performs is done by the committees listed below. The SAEA Executive Committee on behalf of SAEA members would like to thank everyone serving on our committees. If you are interested in serving on one of our committees please contact Barry Barnett at barnett@agecon.msstate.edu Please note we are in need of members for Committees that do not have a member where the term expires in 2017.

Selected Papers Committee: Dan Petrolia, Mississippi State University (2015) Jon Biermacher, Noble Foundation (2015); Deacue Fields, Auburn University (2016); Carlos Carpio, Texas Tech University (2016); Jody Campiche Oklahoma State University (2017).

Lifetime Achievement Award Committee: Kerry Litzenberg (2015), Texas A&M University; Bill Herndon (2016), Mississippi State University; Jeffrey Jordan (2017), University of Georgia.

SAEA Outstanding Extension Program Award Committee: Larry Sanders (2015), Oklahoma State University; Matt Fannin (2016), Louisiana State University Agricultural Center; Glynn Tonsor (2017), Kansas State University.

SAEA Outstanding Teaching of a Course Award Committee: John Park (2015), Texas A&M University; Forrest Stegelin (2016), University of Georgia; Joshua Detre (2017), Louisiana State University..

Masters Thesis Award Committee: Lurleen Walters (2015), Mississippi State University; Andrew Griffith (2016), University of Tennessee; Luis Ribera (2017), Texas A&M University.

Ph.D. Dissertation Award Committee: Jose Lopez (2015), Texas A&M University, Commerce; L. Lanier Nalley (2016), University of Arkansas; Ram Acharya (2016), New Mexico State; David Willis (2017) Clemson University.

Poster Committee: Swagata “Ban” Banerjee (2015), University of Wisconsin-Platteville; Jody Campiche (2016), Oklahoma State University; Kalyn Coatney (2017), Mississippi State University.

Undergraduate Committee: Michael Best, Tennessee Tech University, Chair; Lal Almas, West Texas A&M University; Glenn Ames, University of Georgia; Sierra Howry, Angelo State University; Joey Mehlhorn, University of Tennessee at Martin; Mohammed Ibrahim, Ft. Valley State University; Michelle Mullins-Santiago, Sam Houston State University, Lanier Nalley, University of Arkansas; Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University; Mikael Sandberg, Flagler College; John Siebert, Texas A&M University; Robert Stark, University of Arkansas-Monticello; Kurt Stephenson, Virginia Tech.

JAAE Editors: Krishna Paudel, Louisiana State University (LSU) and LSU AgCenter; Andrew McKenzie, University of Arkansas.

JAAE Editorial Council: Jeffrey Alwang, Virginia Tech; Kym Anderson, University of Adelaide; Keith Coble, Mississippi State University; Keith Fuglie, Economic Research Service, USDA; Kaliappa Kalirajan, Australian National University; Craig Landry, East Carolina State University; Jayson Lusk, Oklahoma State University; Ashok Mishra, Louisiana State University; Rudy Nayga, University of Arkansas; James Richardson, Texas A&M University; Alexander Sarris, University of Athens, Greece; Ted Schroeder, Kansas State University; Kathleen Segerson, University of Connecticut; Benjamin Senauer, University of Minnesota; Loren Tauer, Cornell University; Sophie Thoyer, Montpellier SUPAGRO.

Nominating Committee: Past-President, R. Wes Harrison, Louisiana State University & LSU AgCenter ; President, Barry Barnett, Mississippi State University; President-elect, Ron Rainey, University of Arkansas.

Social Planner for 2015 Meetings: Jeff Jordan, University of Georgia

IT/AV Committee for 2015 Meetings: Jody Campiche, Oklahoma State University

