2013 Purdue University Agricultural Economics Faculty Presenters

Craig Dobbins

- Office: KRAN 640
- Phone Number: (765) 494-9041
- E-mail: cdobbins@purdue.edu
- Professor
- Ph.D. Oklahoma State University

Dr. Dobbins is a professor and Associate Department Head for Teaching. He conducts extension and teaching programs in farm management. His areas of interest include the application of decision support tools to farm management problems, farm financial management, and farmland economics.


Ken Foster

- Office: KRAN 653
- Phone Number: (765) 494-4191
- E-mail: kfoster@purdue.edu
- Department Head/Professor of Ag Econ
- Ph.D. University of California, Davis

Professor Foster's research interests are in the fields of production economics and marketing with special emphasis on dynamic models in the livestock and meat sectors. His work has included a dynamic analysis of investment and supply in the U.S. beef cattle industry, measuring technical change in agriculture, the management of livestock waste, demand for heterogeneous products, and the use of contracts in agricultural production. Foster’s research and outreach activities have included testimony to Senate committees and state legislative study committees on the competitiveness of livestock markets and the use of contract production. Likewise, his work has impacted the decisions of private stakeholders in the livestock and meat industry. Most notable, perhaps, is his coauthored book *Positioning Your Pork Operation for the 21st Century* which provided guidance to the international pork industry during a time of dramatic technological and managerial revolution.
Professor Foster teaches applied econometrics, has experience working in Latin America, China, and Africa, and serves as an extension specialist in the area of livestock production economics. Foster served as Associate Head and Graduate Program Director from 2004 to 2008 and was named Interim Department Head in 2008. In 2009, he was appointed as head of the department. Foster serves on the College of Agriculture Academic Leadership Council and as an ex-Officio member of the Board of Directors for the Agribusiness Council of Indiana. Among his many awards, Ken has been recognized by the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association for Distinguished Graduate Teaching with 10 or More Years’ Experience, by the College of Agriculture for Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor, and has received the Purdue Agriculture Team Award on three different occasions. He is currently the Chair of the National Association of Agricultural Economics Administrators.

Christopher Hurt

- Office: KRN 575
- Phone Number: (765) 494-4273
- E-mail: hurtc@purdue.edu
- Agricultural Economics Extension Coordinator/Professor
- Ph.D. University of Illinois

Professor Hurt is the Extension Coordinator for the department. He joined the department in 1981 and teaches an undergraduate course in livestock and meat marketing. Professor Hurt's areas of specialty include examination of family farm market problems, pricing strategies, and livestock futures market problems, pricing strategies, and livestock futures market performance.

In extension education, he provides analysis for participation in government programs, teaches marketing principles and alternatives, evaluates the livestock industry structure, and provides price analysis and outlook of live cattle and hogs. Recently he has examined the factors influencing the structural changes in the pork industry, and evaluated the adoption of new technologies in moderate size Midwestern farms.

Professor Hurt helps coordinate a fee-based market newsletter and report service published jointly with the University of Illinois. He serves as editor of the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report. Professor Hurt has received the USDA Superior Service Group Award, an American Agricultural Economics Group award, as well as two Indiana Extension Service Awards.
Roman Keeney

- Office: KRAN 692
- Phone Number: (765) 494-4273
- E-mail: rkeeney@purdue.edu
- Associate Professor
- B.S. degree from the University of Kentucky
- M.S. degree from Southern Illinois University
- Ph.D. from Purdue University

Dr. Keeney began his appointment with the agricultural economics faculty of Purdue University in August 2005 as assistant professor of farm and rural household economics. Prior to that Roman was a Ph.D. student in the Purdue AgEcon department. Roman’s research program explores how farm households and rural residents respond to and are impacted by changes to farm and farm related policies. Roman has worked extensively on the interaction between U.S. domestic farm programs and international trade barriers, focusing in particular on the distribution of gains and losses across the population of U.S. farmers. Recently, Roman has taken on Extension responsibilities for analysis and education of farm payment programs. In addition to research and Extension, Roman teaches the department’s undergraduate math programming course and graduate level production economics course.

Roman grew up on a cow-calf farm in central Kentucky and received a B.S. degree from the University of Kentucky in Biology. He subsequently completed B.S. and M.S. degree programs in Agribusiness Economics at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois before moving on to Purdue for his doctoral studies and initial faculty appointment.

Holly Wang

- Office: KRAN 611
- Phone Number: (765) 494-4245
- E-mail: wanghong@purdue.edu
- Professor
- B.S. Tsinghua University, China
- M.A. Michigan State
- Ph.D. Michigan State

Dr. Holly Wang joined the department in 2007, with her ten years of faculty experience from Washington State University.

Her research has been focused on agricultural risks, derivative markets, crop insurance food marketing and safety for both US and China issues. Dr. Wang has advised over ten Ph.D. students whom are now faculty members in major US and international research universities, and
economists in the finance industry. She has taught Ph.D. level courses in supply and demand systems, decision analysis, and marketing; Master level courses in econometrics and agribusiness marketing; as well as undergraduate courses in corporate finance and Chinese economy.

Dr. Wang has established herself as a known scholar in agricultural economic issues especially about China. She travels to China frequently and has developed a broad professional network. Dr. Wang served as past President of Chinese Economists Society (www.china-ces.org) in 2009, a US based organization focusing on the research of Chinese economic issues, and founding Chair for China Section of Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/china/) in 2010. She is now an AAEA Executive Board Director.

Elizabeth Yeager

- Office: KRAN 640
- Phone Number: (765) 494-7709
- E-mail: eayeager@purdue.edu
- Assistant Professor
- B.S. Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University
- Ph.D. Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Dr. Yeager’s research and teaching activities are primarily related to agribusiness management and marketing. Elizabeth is the faculty advisor of the Purdue University NAMA team.

Professor Yeager’s dissertation research examined the impact of risk and risk preferences on cost- and revenue-based efficiency measures. Other research interests include firm productivity, competitive advantage of firms, and the production and marketing of value-added products.