Hertel Selected for Inaugural Research Distinction Award

Dr. Thomas Hertel has been chosen to receive the inaugural Purdue University Research and Scholarship Distinction Award. The award recognizes university faculty whose recent research or scholarship has made a major impact in their field. Jay Akridge, Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture, said, “Dr. Hertel’s research, which focuses on the economy-wide impacts of global trade and environmental policies, and his leadership of the Global Trade Analysis Project, have made major impacts on how governments and organizations around the world address complex policy questions.” Hertel is the founder and executive director of the Global Trade Analysis Project, a Purdue-based program that helps researchers and policymakers analyze national and international policy.

2013 AAEA HONORS

Purdue faculty and students earned national recognition for teaching, leadership, and research at the joint annual meeting of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society (CAES) held in Washington, D.C.

Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award

In recognition of his outstanding teaching and mentoring Dr. Wallace Tyner received the Distinguished Graduate Teaching Award (more than 10 years of experience) from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. As a testament to Tyner’s approachability, patience and rapport with students, he is highly sought after as a mentor among Purdue graduate students. During his tenure at Purdue, Wally has supervised 21 Ph.D. dissertations and 30 M.S. students.

Quality of Research Discovery Award

Dr. Joseph Balagtas, along with former Purdue Agricultural Economics student Metin Cakir, now an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota, received the Quality of Research Discovery award from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association for their article “Estimating Market Power of U.S. Dairy Cooperatives in the Fluid Milk Market.” The article, published in the American Journal of Agricultural Economics, sheds new light on how institutions jointly influenced market power in fluid milk markets in the United States and ties together three branches of the literature with rich histories in agricultural economics.

Publication of Enduring Quality Award

Dr. Kwamena Quagrainie, with co-authors J. Unterschultz and M. Veeman, received Honorable Mention for the Publication of Enduring Quality award presented by the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society. Their article “Effects of Product Origin and Selected Demographics on Consumer Choice of Red Meats,” was published in the Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics in 1998. This article has made a large contribution as one of the first applications of stated preference methods to food choice in Canada.

2012 Cohen Antitrust Scholarship Award

Emeritus Professor Dr. John M. Connor and co-author Robert H. Lande have been selected as the recipients of the 11th annual Jerry S. Cohen Award for the best antitrust scholarship of 2012 for their article, “Cartels as Rational Business Strategy: Crime Pays”, which demonstrates that the combined level of U.S. cartel sanctions has been only 9% to 21% as large as it should be to protect potential victims of cartelization optimally. The award is presented each year by the American Antitrust Institute for the best antitrust writing during the prior year. An article in the September 16, 2013 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education addressed Dr. Connor’s expertise in international price-fixing.

Land O’Lakes Foundation Creates Endowed Chair in Agriculture

Agricultural economics professor, Dr. Allan Gray, has been named the newly created Land O’Lakes Chair in Food and Agribusiness at Purdue University. The Land O’Lakes Foundation created the endowed chair because it is committed to supporting leading agriculture education institutions that are preparing students and professionals for successful careers in a growing industry that must be poised to feed a growing global population.
Dept Head Comments – Ken Foster

If you’ve ever seen the Blue Man Group perform then you may recall the following quotation displayed on the stage curtain before the show: “If you would like to establish a connection with people from another culture, it’s always good to offer a few gifts as a gesture of friendship. But the best way to form a lasting bond is to create something together.” The quote is attributed to a book entitled The Social Synapse by Nora Epinephrin and Sara Tonin. If you are gullible like me, then you bit hard on this bait, went to Amazon.com to buy the book after the show, and discovered that it isn’t available there or anywhere else. Upon closer examination, I realized the depth of the insight behind this quotation. Nora Epinephrin and Sara Tonin are euphemisms for two hormones (norepinephrine and serotonin) that have powerful influences over our minds and attitudes. I know – you are wondering if I should be teaching college students if it took this long for me to “figure it out.” Norepinephrine affects the neurons in our brains controlling our hearts and affects our response to our surroundings. Serotonin plays a dramatic role in regulating our moods and our interactions with others. As I look back at the quotation, it strikes me how interwoven it is with what we do in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue. We have faculty and students who are involved in projects and courses in some of the neediest places in the world. They know it is important to take Purdue t-shirts to share with those with whom they interact, but what is building a lasting bond between us is the water purification system they are working to build with a community in the Dominican Republic, and the management and policy making insight that they hope to develop with decision makers. Every faculty member and many students in our department are involved in efforts either here in the United States or abroad that create lasting impacts. These efforts truly come from their hearts and are aimed at building a more peaceful and productive world for future generations. The support of our friends and alumni in addressing important issues in the food, agriculture, natural resources, and international development arenas is very much appreciated. Thank you and, as always, HAIL PURDUE!

Henderson Named Associate Dean of Extension

Dr. Jason Henderson, a former Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City vice president who led the bank’s agricultural and rural outreach and research programs, has been appointed associate dean of the Purdue University College of Agriculture and director of Purdue Extension. Henderson, who earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in agricultural economics from Purdue and served on the College of Agriculture Dean’s Advisory Council, began his new role at his alma mater May 28, 2013.
**PUCESA Outstanding Extension Specialist Award**

Dr. Joan Fulton was presented with the Purdue University Outstanding Extension Specialist Award for her work within the College of Agriculture. Fulton’s work in business management and marketing spans Indiana, the United States and the world. Fulton is a founding member of the Purdue Women in Agriculture team. She has helped to develop programs through Purdue’s Center for Food and Agricultural Business, and she was involved in developing the Indiana Cooperative Development Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development.

**PUCESA Mid-Career Award**

Dr. Kwamena Quagrainie received the PUCESA Mid-Career Award. Kwamena provides assistance to aquaculture producers in pursuing and realizing economic and market development opportunities. He also provides training and educational materials for farmers and Extension Educators in the farm business management area of enterprise budgets. Kwamena has a great interest in international work and directs an aquaculture CRSP project in Ghana, Kenya and Tanzania.

**Award for Excellence in Distance Learning**

Dr. Michael Boehlje and Dr. Michael Gunderson earned the 2013 Award for Excellence in Distance Learning from Purdue Extended Campus in the category of credit-granting activity for their online courses, Interconnecting the Concepts of AGEC 684: Applied Quantitative Methods for Decision Making and AGEC 681: Economics for Food and Agribusiness Managers. These courses, taught as part of the Purdue-Kelley MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management, integrate upper-level quantitative methods with practical applications, enjoyable activities, and provide opportunities for student interactions.

**Award for Improving Crop Storage**

Purdue University College of Agriculture faculty members Dr. James “Jess” Lowenberg-DeBoer and Dr. Larry Murdock from Entomology, received the highest honor given by the West African nation of Burkina Faso for their work improving storage of the staple cowpea crops via the PICS system. The Chevalier de l’Ordre National du Burkina Faso, is the equivalent to the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom and is rarely given to foreigners.

**2012 Excellence in Research Awards**

Nearly 300 Purdue University faculty and staff gathered November 2012, for the Excellence in Research Awards dinner, celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of Purdue’s research community.

AgEcon and Agricultural faculty were recognized for having received a grant for $1 million dollars or more for Fiscal Year 2012.

- From U.S. Department of Agriculture to Linda S. Prokopy; Otto C. Doering III; Benjamin M. Gramig; Devdutta S. Niyogi; Xiaohui Carol Song for their research: “Useful to Usable (U2U): Transforming Climate Variability and Change Information for Cereal Crop Producers”
- From U.S. Department of Agriculture to Kevin T. McNamara and James M. Lowenberg-DeBoer for their research: “MAIL Agricultural Data Collection and Utilization System Project”
- From U.S. Department of Agriculture to Kevin T. McNamara; Betty A. Bugusu; Ricky E. Foster; Haley F. Oliver; Ramesh Vemulapalli for their research: “Afghanistan Agricultural Sanitary and Phytosanitary Project”
From U.S. Department of Agriculture to Jeffrey J. Volenec; Corinne E. Alexander; Sylvie M. Brouder; Natalie J. Carroll; Indrajeet Chaubey; Keith D. Johnson; Brenda Rose Lerner; Chad A. Martin; Patrick T. Murphy; Nicole J. Olynk Widmar; Kathryn S. Orvis; Ronald F. Turco, Jr. for their research: “Sustainable Production and Distribution of Bioenergy for the Central USA”

Agriculture Research Spotlight

Dr. Benjamin Gramig was featured in the Agricultural Research at Purdue Spotlight in March 2013. Gramig is a natural resource and environmental economist whose applied research investigates human-environmental interaction, the trade-offs between environmental and economic decisions, and accounting for the costs of public and private decisions. Gramig works with colleagues in many other departments in the College of Agriculture as well as other departments on campus. Gramig’s research approach allows him to analyze current data straight from the field. “In truly collaborative research, I actually have some opportunity to help design those experiments,” he adds. That translates to research with more immediate impact.

Purdue Ag Alumni Fish Fry

The annual fish fry was held on February 2, 2013 and the keynote address was given by Steve Inskeep, a native of Carmel, Indiana, and the host of Morning Edition on National Public Radio. The Ag Forecast held beforehand featured Dr. Candace Croney, Dr. Nicole Olynk Widmar and Dr. Jeremy Marchant-Forde discussing “Balancing Act: Meeting the growing demands for food, enhanced animal well-being and consumer trust.”

Several outstanding members of the agricultural community well known in our department were honored with the Ag Alumni Certificates of Distinction:

Mr. Jim Hicks – Brea, CA. Jim Hicks and Co. distributes commercial fertilizers in the western United States and Mexico. Forty undergraduate students this academic year in Purdue’s College of Agriculture are supported by Mr. Hicks’ scholarship contributions. He received his bachelor’s degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue in 1961.

Mr. Levi Huffman – Lafayette, IN. Huffman operates the 3,000-acre Huffman & Hawbaker Farms and has spoken to numerous farm management classes at Purdue. He serves on the boards for both the Indiana Soybean Alliance and Indiana Pork Producers, and is a member of Purdue’s Farm Policy Study Group and the Advisory Council for Purdue’s Center for Food and Agricultural Business.

Mr. Thomas H. McKinney – Kempton, IN. President and general manager of McKinney & McKinney, a family farming operation, and is a seed dealer with Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc. He is vice president of the Indiana 4-H Foundation, and a past president of Purdue Council for Agriculture Research, Extension and Teaching. He served on Indiana Farm Bureau’s commodities committee. He received a bachelor’s Agricultural Economics degree from Purdue in 1980.
2013 Distinguished Ag Alumni

The College of Agriculture presented its highest honor, the Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Awards on March 2013 to ten honorees. This annual event recognizes mid-career Purdue Agriculture graduates who have a demonstrated record of outstanding accomplishments, made significant contributions to their professions or to society, and have high potential for future professional growth.

Honored alumni from AgEcon were:

Lisa Koester (B.S. AgEcon and Youth Development/Ag Education) began her professional career as a sales representative for Novartis (Syngenta), where she placed in the top 10% in her region with annual sales of $6.5 million. She is now an implementation leader and moderator for Beck Ag, as well as part owner of Koester Brothers Farms Inc. Through Indiana Farm Bureau, Lisa has been an active participant and leader in agricultural organizations. In 2003, she was a winner of the Indiana Farm Bureau Young Farmer Achievement Award. She has also served as an agriculture advisory board member for U.S. Representative Brad Ellsworth and as a member of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. She has been an active participant and leader in agricultural organizations. In 2003, she was a winner of the Indiana Farm Bureau Young Farmer Achievement Award. She has also served as an agriculture advisory board member for U.S. Representative Brad Ellsworth and as a member of the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers. She has continued service to Purdue University through involvement with the Ag Alumni Board of Directors, the Farm Policy Study Group and the College of Agriculture Dean's Advisory Council.

Zarrell Gray (B.S. AgEcon) spent the first 17 years of his post-graduate experience with Gray's Seed Inc., a regional seed company that produces, processes and markets high quality regionally specialized products. Over that period, growth was managed at a steady pace. Although no longer involved in the day-to-day operation of Gray's Seed, Zarrell is a principal owner, advisor and board member. From 2007 to present, Zarrell has worked with his longtime friend Richard Halderman to build Teays River Investments. Currently, he serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. From 1999 to 2004, Zarrell served on the board of directors for the Indiana Crop Improvement Association (ICIA). From 2001 to 2005, he served on the board of directors for the Indiana Seed Trade Association. He was awarded the ICIA Crop and Soils Merit Award in 2008.

39th Annual Snyder Lecture & Awards

The 39th Annual Snyder Lecture and Awards took place on April 12, 2013. Established in 1975 as a memorial to a deceased distinguished faculty member, the James C. Snyder Memorial Lecture is the Department of Agricultural Economics’ signature event held to support continuation of the professional efforts established by James Snyder during his brief but brilliant career.

The event was attended by the late Dr. Snyder’s spouse, Mary Ruth Snyder. The Snyder guest lecturer was Robert Zoellick, a Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard, former World Bank President, U.S. Trade Representative and Deputy Secretary of State, who participated in a panel discussion on the future of global agriculture with Dr. Allan Gray, Purdue Trustee John Hardin, Dr. Thomas Hertel, and Dr. Wallace Tyner. Later that day Dr. Zoellick was introduced by Purdue President, Mitch Daniels, and presented his lecture on “The Changing Global Economy of the 21st Century: Prospects and Challenges.”

Following the lecture Dr. Ken Foster presented both Department and APEX awards:

Graduate Poster Competition

1st place: E.M. Sajeev - “Do Cellulosic Biofuels meet the RFS mandate and at what cost?”

2nd place: Jingyu Song - “A Spatially Explicit Watershed Scale Optimization of Cellulosic Biofuels Production”

3rd place: Celeste Sununtnasuk - “Agriculture and Child Nutrition in Nepal”

Outstanding Master’s Thesis

Michelle Pratt for “Synergies Between Cover Crops and Corn Stover Removal” Advisor: Dr. Wallace Tyner

Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation

Ce Wu for “The Myth and Mystery of Vietnam’s Economic and Labor Demand” Advisor: Philip Abbott
economy and their communities. Their influence runs the gamut from providing educational opportunities for our students, improving the livelihoods of rural stakeholders, and framing policy that makes U.S. agriculture more competitive.”

Dr. Tahirou Abdoulaye, M.Sc. and Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Purdue University. Dr. Abdoulaye is an agricultural economist with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture based in Nigeria. His research covers a wide range of rural economic issues including seed systems, farm-level efficiency and technology evaluation and transfer to ensure the greatest impact. He has played an important role as a member of several graduate student committees in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue, assisting with problem definition, methodology, data collection, and analysis of results.

Joe Kelsay, B.S. in agricultural economics from Purdue University. Joe Kelsay farms with his father and brother in Johnson County, Indiana, where they milk around 500 Holsteins and raise corn, soybeans, alfalfa and wheat. The farm is a Hoosier Homestead farm, and last year celebrated its 175th year. Joe partners with his wife Amy to operate her farm tour business, Kelsay Farm Tours LLC, and last year hosted about 20,000 visitors. Off the farm, Joe is employed by Dow AgroSciences, on the Global Regulatory and Government Affairs Team as Senior Manager of Biotechnology Affairs. Joe served Indiana as the Director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), where he worked on efforts of agricultural advocacy and education, soil and water conservation and agricultural economic development. He served on the Purdue University Dean of Agriculture’s Advisory Council, served as president of the Indiana Dairy Producers, and was a board member for the Indiana FFA Foundation.

Sam Faggetti, B.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois. Sam is a Business-to-Business Manager for Winfield Solutions, a Land O’ Lakes Company, where he serves as an embedded employee in sales and marketing management for Harvest Land Cooperative. In that role for 14 years, Sam has had the opportunity and responsibility to work closely with the wholesale markets in seed and crop protection products. He also manages sales and sales specialists for Harvest Land’s energy and agronomy departments. He was a member of the team that created YieldPro, a comprehensive agronomy consulting system for growers. In addition, Sam assisted in the development of EnergyPro for Harvest Land’s energy business and also EDGE (Educational Development Growth Experience), an extensive leadership program targeting young, progressive growers in Indiana and Ohio.

Back to Back Wins for Annual Food Drive

The College of Agriculture held its 4th Annual Food Drive competition to collect food and monetary donations to support the Lafayette Food Finders Food Bank. For the 2nd year in a row, AgEcon won that challenge. The first win came in 2012 with Luanna DeMay coordinating the department campaign.
volunteers and events that resulted in over 9,500 pounds of food donated. The grand prize was an antique pitchfork trophy to hang on the main office walls. This year the successful department campaign was coordinated by Lou Ann Baugh and Carol Wood who organized numerous activities to make this a fun event for all. With many faculty, staff and student volunteers combining efforts and donations, the final AgEcon tally was 17,155 pounds of food. The traveling antique pitchfork trophy remains in the department for another year! We’re already making plans for the 2014 campaign.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Indiana Council for Economic Education

Each year the Indiana Council for Economic Education (ICEE), under the direction of Executive Director, Jeffrey Sanson, provides professional development to Indiana teachers and youth educators on a variety of economic and financial education topics. The ICEE is the presenter of education programs such as the Classroom Mini-Economy; Indiana Stock Market Game; the Indiana Economics Challenge; the Personal Finance Challenge, the Economic Concept Calendar; as well as numerous awards for teachers, students, and supporters. The ICEE is an affiliate of the national Council for Economic Education.

ICEE Annual Awards Program:

On September 20th, 2013, ICEE recognized teachers from across Indiana with the Olin Davis Awards for Exemplary Teaching of Economics. Award recipients were selected based on their outstanding classroom projects or units in economic education and letters of recommendation. Kimberly Beal, a third grade teacher at Burris Laboratory School (Muncie) was named the 2013 Statewide Winner. Regional award winners were: Gina Boyd, Mayflower Mill Elementary School (Lafayette), and Cynthia Eveland, Western Intermediate School (Russiaville). Honorable Mention award winners included Jill Hahn, Central High School (Evansville), and Gina Pullen, South Central High School (Elizabethtown).

ICEE 13th Annual Econ Camp

Econ Camp, one of the ICEE’s signature programs, was recognized by the national Council for Economic Education as a best-in-class model for economic education. ICEE will present its 13th Econ Camp for high school teachers of economics this fall. This year’s keynote sessions include a panel discussion of problem based learning strategies for high school students and a presentation by Dr. Michael Gunderson on “Drivers of Change in Food and Agriculture.” Econ Camp provides teachers an engaging experience where they can explore in depth economics issues and topics, obtain classroom resources, and participate in activities developed for classroom implementation.

Center for Food and Agricultural Business

During fiscal year 2013, under the direction of Dr. Allan Gray, the Center for Food and Agricultural Business continued its tradition of developing and delivering management education for agribusiness professionals. Through more than 130 days of programming, the center facilitated learning activities that exposed participants to different points of view, allowing them to gain new perspectives. The center’s open enrollment programs drew 189 agribusiness managers from 28 states, and its custom programs reached 334 professionals from 22 states and countries spanning the globe.

2013 Large Commercial Producer Project Underway

After months of preparation and planning, the center conducted its flagship research survey, the Large Commercial Producer (LCP) Project, in early 2013. Surveying nearly 1,700 producers, the project takes a look at the buying behavior of farmers, especially large producers. Since 1993, the center has conducted the survey every five years. This year’s survey focused on producer loyalty, segmentation and insight on farm success. In November, the results of the survey will be released publicly at the center’s National Conference for Agribusiness.
**Center for Commercial Agriculture**

The 46th Annual Top Farmer Crop Workshop was held July 8 – 10, 2013 in Purdue’s Beck Agricultural Center. The workshop, hosted by the Center for Commercial Agriculture (CCA) is a management and technology-focused program that allows participants to evaluate their farming operation and chart a course for the future. Participants worked with Purdue University and University of Illinois Extension farm management experts, as well as other university and industry experts, to look at their operations from a business standpoint - specifically economic, agronomic and technological opportunities and challenges. According to Dr. Michael Langemeier, Associate Director for the CCA, the combination of production and economic topics made it a unique and more comprehensive workshop.

**Farm Management Tour**

The 81st Annual Farm Management Tour was held June 26 & 27, 2013 in Clinton County, and coordinated by Alan Miller, Farm Business Management Specialist. Clinton County hosts farms were: Jay Hawley Farm (Jay and Sue Hawley), Windy Lane Farms (Hal and Ty Brown), Gary and Larry Neal Farms, Kent and Jeff Need Farms, Meadow Lane Farms (Mike and David Beard). The tour showcased farms that: utilize logistics and inventory management technology to monitor various parts of their operation from remote locations, specialize in pork products, grow cover crops and non-genetically modified corn, practice no-till crop production, and operate a custom manure application business. The Indiana Farm Management Tour is a cooperative effort of the Department of Agricultural Economics, the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and the Indiana Farm Management Association.

**CCA Offers Farming into the Next Generation**

On February 12-13, 2013 farmers from across the Midwest came to Purdue’s Beck Agricultural Center for Farming into the Next Generation, a program developed by the Center for Commercial Agriculture for family farmers who want to continue their success as their farm business transitions to the next generation. The workshop instilled in farmers the confidence and expertise needed to guide the succession-planning process and create an even stronger business for the future.

**Center for Global Trade Analysis**

The Center for Global Trade Analysis coordinates the Global Trade Analysis Project, a global network of researchers and policy-makers who analyze international policy issues, includes data on bilateral trade patterns and production, consumption and intermediate use of commodities and services. The centerpiece of the Project is the GTAP Data Base, a fully documented, publicly available global data base which contains complete bilateral trade information, transport and protection linkages. The GTAP Data Base is utilized by thousands worldwide and is a key input into contemporary applied general equilibrium analysis of global economic issues. The current release, the GTAP 8 Data Base, boasts dual reference years of 2004 and 2007 as well as 129 regions for all 57 GTAP commodities.

**GTAP 16th Annual Conference**

The 16th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis and 2013 GTAP Annual Advisory Board Meeting were held June 10-14, 2013 in Shanghai, China. These events were co-hosted by the Shanghai University of International Business and Economics, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center and the China Investment Corporation. The conference attracted 275 participants and the annual meeting was attended by 25 leading economists and policy advisors representing institutions worldwide.

**GTAP 20th Anniversary**

The center celebrated its 20th anniversary on October 22, 2012. Opening remarks made by Dr. Jay Akridge, Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture, preceded a panel discussion on “Purdue’s Role in International Outreach” with contributions from Dr. Vic Lechtenberg, former interim provost, Dr. Thomas Hertel, executive director of the Center for Global Trade Analysis, Dr. Jess Lowenberg-DeBoer, associate dean of International Programs in Agriculture, and Dr. Ken Foster, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. The closing reception was
well attended by past and present GTAP Network members and the campus community.

**Seed and Input Marketing in Nigeria and Ghana**

Over eighty individuals received training on seed and input marketing in Nigeria and Ghana in the spring of 2013. The program was adapted from Purdue’s Bigger Profits Through Targeted Sales workshop specifically for West African seed and input supply companies. It was conducted by the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture in collaboration with Purdue University and CSIR/SARI (Ghana). The workshop was led by Dr. Joan Fulton, Purdue alumnus Dr. Tahirou Abdoulaye from IITA, and Prince Maxwell Etwire (SCIR/SARI in Ghana). The participants were from seed and input supply companies. The effective participation of seed companies in the value chain offers farmers easier access to improved seeds and helps improve their productivity and incomes.

**Purdue Study Abroad in China**

Dr. Holly Wang brought a Purdue study abroad class to China from May 16 to 29. They visited the Foreign Agricultural Service of the USDA in the US Embassy in Beijing, farms, markets, and China agriculture. They also met with US agribusiness executives and Chinese entrepreneurs in the manufacturing and financial sectors.

**China Agribusiness Workshop**

The 2nd Purdue-SWUFE China Agribusiness Workshop was held at Purdue University from July 28 to August 4, 2013. A team from Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Chengdu, China, participated in the program, organized by Dr. Holly Wang. They are university educators, provincial and county government administrators, and private business owners and executives working in agriculture, food, banking, and other rural related sectors. Topics of agricultural production, marketing, finance, US policy and government, and food safety were introduced by Drs. Craig Dobbins, Chris Hurt, Roman Keeney, Holly Wang, and Elizabeth Yeager. The group visited an ethanol plant, a grain elevator, a corn/soybean farm, a dairy and hog farm, a U-pick blueberry farm, a bank, a county extension office, and a farmers’ market in Indiana.

**Aquaculture Industry Growing**

Raising fish is a growing part of the state’s agricultural economy, a Purdue Extension report concludes. “While aquaculture is not the most well-known industry in Indiana’s agriculture sector, it is definitely present and very important to the state’s economy,” Dr. Kwamena Quagrainie, aquaculture marketing specialist in AgEcon, said in the report. Estimated sales from Indiana fish farms amounted to more than $15 million in 2012, an increase from $3.5 million in 2006. There are about 50 fish producers in Indiana, compared with 18 just seven years ago. The study measured the significance of the industry in 2012 in several ways, including the total income of $3.7 million earned by 169 people employed in aquaculture, their $101,506 in income taxes and $877,908 in sales taxes the industry generated for Indiana. Quagrainie conducted the study with graduate student Megan C. Broughton. The study was funded by Purdue Extension, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant and the Indiana Soybean Alliance and was conducted in cooperation with the Indiana Aquaculture Association.
OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENTS

2013 Applebaum Outstanding Dissertation
At the annual conference of the Food Distribution Research Society, David Ortega was presented with the 2013 Applebaum Outstanding Dissertation Award by Doug Richardson, Vice President in charge of the Applebaum fund, and Deacue Fields, Vice President of Education. David, a former AgEcon doctoral student, is currently an Assistant Professor of Global Agri-food Systems at Michigan State University. David’s dissertation, “An Economic Exposition of Chinese Food Safety Issues,” was selected from a very competitive field and presented October 8, 2013, at the conference luncheon held in the Union League Club of Chicago. In 2009, David also received the Applebaum Award for Outstanding Master’s Thesis.

Kruhe Fellowship
Stephanie Rosch has been awarded a Kruhe Fellowship and named alternate for a National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren Fellowship.
Leadership Award

Eric O’Rear received the Dr. Luther S. Williams Leadership Award by the BGSA at the Black Graduate Student Association Banquet held on April 13, 2013.

Certificate of Excellence

Jing Liu was honored with the 2013 Certificate of Excellence in Non-IGP Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Research, Graduate School, Purdue University. She also was awarded a Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship.

Fulbright Finalist

Alicia English was honored on April 26th by the National and International Scholarships Office at a reception in celebration of Purdue University’s 2013 major scholarship nominees, finalists, recipients, and those who supported the efforts of these students. Alicia is a Fulbright finalist.

Two Travel Grants

Jeffrey Michler has been awarded a D. Wood Thomas Memorial International Studies Award to fund international travel and a Frederick Andrews Environmental Travel Grant. Jeff was featured in the Graduate Ag Research Spotlight for his work with Bangladesh rice farmers on grain storage and groundwater irrigation use.

CRAE Graduate Student Summit

Students attending the CRAE Graduate Student Summit at Ohio State presented the following: Kevin Camp - “Rural Brain Drain: Factors Affecting Migration of the College-Educated”

Jing Liu - “Weather or Wealth: Property Damage from Flooding”

Agricultural Economics Award

Celeste Sununtnasuk and Kevin Camp were awarded Gary Lynn Hoover Agricultural Economics Award Scholarships for the 2012/2013 academic year. This scholarship is for students studying international agricultural banking, finance or business. Celeste is currently working at the International Food Policy Research Institute.

Ag Econ students Celeste Sununtnasuk, Tia McDonald and Kevin Camp participated in a Service Learning Course designed to develop and implement a community-scale sustainable water treatment system in Las Canas, Dominican Republic. The course is multidisciplinary with students and faculty from the Colleges of Agriculture, Engineering, Nursing, and Science participating. Dr. Ken Foster was one of the co-instructors. 19 students and faculty traveled to Las Canas over Spring Break to lay the groundwork, and will return in the 2013-14 academic year to implement the project and train local leaders in hygiene, system management, and economic sustainability.

Writing Award

Tia McDonald, and Dr. Maria Marshall, received an Honorable Mention for the Best Paper in Family Business, from the 2013 USASBE, for “Structural Household Differences and the Effect on Conflict Quality”.

Farm Foundation Round Table

Samiul Haque attended the Farm Foundation Round Table, June 6-8, 2013 in Ames, Iowa. The Farm Foundation, NFP, serves as a catalyst for sound public policy by providing objective information to foster deeper understanding of issues shaping the future for agriculture, food systems and rural regions.
DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

LEAP Fellows

Akuffo Amankwah and Didier Kadjo, PhD students, have been selected as Fellows for the Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) of the Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellows Program. Akuffo will be conducting research in Ghana and Kenya and Didier will complete his research on the effects of storage losses and market imperfections on households. Additionally, both represented the LEAP program at the World Food Prize events and activities in Des Moines, IA in October.

2012 Article of the Year

Congratulations to Patrick Hatzenbuehler, whose article, “Does Healthy Food Cost More in Poor Neighborhoods? An Analysis of Retail Food Cost and Spatial Competition” was selected as the 2012 Article of the Year for Agricultural and Resource Economics Review.

UNDERGRADUATE ACHIEVEMENT

Flora Roberts Award

From the more than 6,300 graduates in the May commencement Purdue recognized one outstanding undergraduate man and woman. Laura Donaldson (Kentland) was named the Flora Roberts Award winner as the outstanding senior woman on the Purdue campus. Laura was Indiana’s State FFA President and has excelled not only in her agricultural economics coursework, but also campus leadership activities. Laura is employed with John Deere.

2013 France A. Córdova Leadership Award

Jackson Troxel (Hanna) was named the recipient of the 2013 France A. Córdova Leadership Award. He graduated with a degree in agricultural economics, an associate degree in agronomy, and minors in Spanish, agricultural systems management and farm management. Troxel will next participate in the Orr Fellowship, a two-year entrepreneurial program limited to 35 college graduates of Indiana colleges. He is employed with Slane Capital Partners, a venture capital company. Read more.

Outstanding Junior

Erin Whittaker (W. Lafayette) was named the Outstanding Junior in the College of Agriculture. Majoring in quantitative agricultural economics and French, she is in the Dean’s Scholars program, participates in the AgEcon Undergraduate Research Program, and is involved in the College of Agriculture Leadership Certificate program. She serves as president of Mortar Board, Agriculture Council secretary and is a Purdue Ag Ambassador.

Burton D. Morgan Business Plan

Michael Baird (Scottsburg) earned 2nd place in the undergraduate division of the Burton D. Morgan Business Plan Competition at Purdue University. He presented his plan for his family business, Cornucopia Farm, highlighting the farm’s existing agritourism operation which features a corn and soybean maze, pumpkins, mums and school tours. Michael also developed three new ideas to expand their operation.

2013 Student Soybean and Corn Innovation Award

Anbo Wang (Jingdezhen, China) was part of a team that took 2nd place at the 2013 Student Soybean and Corn Innovation Contests. The competitions teach students how to be innovative entrepreneurs. Anbo’s team created Fog-Away, an anti-fog glass and mirror cleansing solution.

Townsend Writing Excellence Award

Courtney Mann (Cloverdale) received first place in the Townsend Writing Excellence Competition and will receive $2500. Courtney is a junior and is currently spending the semester interning in Member Services with the Indiana House of Representatives Republican Caucus.
DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

Agriculture Future of America Student Advisory Team

Joe Rust (Seymour) has been selected as a 2013-14 Agriculture Future of America Student Advisory Team member. Rust and his fellow team members will serve as ambassadors between AFA and their college campuses and AFA’s corporate partners.

2013 Homecoming

Three undergraduates were in the running for 2013 Homecoming King and Queen: Travis Martin, Erin Whittaker, and Joe Rust, with Joe Rust being named Homecoming King for 2013. Congratulations to all three!

NAMA Semifinalists

AgEcon students advanced to the semifinals of the national marketing competition hosted by the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA) April 17-18 in Kansas City, Missouri. The team’s project was to market Golden Queen Honey pollination services and local honey. The team spent the last several months conducting market research, writing the marketing plan and developing a presentation following the same practices and principles used by today’s marketing professionals. Team members: Jacob Burr, Landon Davenport, Brittany Haltom, Jessica Kosoglov, Danae Wise, and their advisor, Dr. Elizabeth Yeager.

Undergraduate Awards

Bartlett Family Scholarship: Dillon Zumwalt
Dr. Leland Edward Ott Memorial Scholarship: Angela Abney, Lukas Koester, Kyle Quick, Philip William
R. Dean Dyson Memorial Scholarship: Nolan Sampson
Farmers National Company Foundation Scholarship: Tyler Love
F. Van Smith Scholarship: Douglas Wicker
Mathias Hartman Family Scholarship: Aaron Dunajeski
Indiana Challenge Match Scholarship: Jourdan Bender
Jim Hicks and Company Scholarship: Jill Griffin, Elizabeth Lecher, Justin Schroeder
Lowell S. Hardin Scholarship for International Studies in Agriculture: Andrew Johnson
Marshall Martin Public Policy Scholarship: Joan Jordan
Raymond “Mick” Orttman Scholarship in Agricultural Economics: Alexander Lamb, Kurt Lambright, Derek Thwaits
Trustee Scholarship: Andrew Johnson
Don and Joyce Villwock Scholarship: Morgan Dawson
Water Street Solutions and Agriculture Future of America, National Leader and Academic Scholarship: Jill Griffin, Nolan Sampson, Kelsey Tuholski
Top Senior Scholars: Sam Koester and Ernest Lesma

David and Stacy Hefty Outstanding Senior in Agricultural Economics: Jackson Troxel
Outstanding Junior: Erin Whittaker
Outstanding Sophomore: Luke Liechty
Outstanding Freshman: Shelby Swain
2013 Dean’s Scholars Graduates: Maria Lunik, Michael Baird
Honors Research: Qijun Guan
Leadership Development Certificate Program graduates: Michael Baird (Scottsburg, IN), Mia Lunik (Fishers, IN), Brooklynnne Slabaugh (Leesburg, IN), and Jackson Troxel (Hanna, IN).

Barbara Cook Chapter of Mortar Board: Jill Griffin, Travis Martin, Joe Rust, Erin Whittaker
Ag Ambassadors: Michael Baird (Scottsburg, IN), Laura Donaldson (Kentland, IN), Alisha Hedrick (Galveston, IN), Mia Lunik (Fishers, IN), and Seth Smoot (Eaton, IN).

Ag Envoys: Abbey Amos, Alysha Wettl, Amanda Downey, Brittany Haltom, Jake Bolander, Katie Hensler, Kayla Peas, Kyle Alcorn, Luke Liechty, Sephora Hibbler, Daniel Mooney, Eric Wagner, Joshua Potschmidt, Justin Schroeder, Laura Stockwell, Yang Zhou

2013 AAEA Quiz Bowl Team: Andrew Johnson, Alexander Lamb, Elizabeth Blinn
NEW FACULTY & STAFF

Dr. Lionel “Bo” J. Beaulieu was hired in April 2013 as the Director of the Purdue Center for Regional Development. Beaulieu will also serve as a professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics. Dr. Beaulieu was director of the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University 1997-2013, where he also was a professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics. Beaulieu earned masters and doctoral degrees from Purdue in the Department of Sociology. His research and engagement activities include: regional development innovations, human/social capital resource issues in the rural United States and South, entrepreneurship and broadband/e-commerce strategies in rural America, civic engagement/deliberative democracy, building disaster-resilient places, and food assistance needs of vulnerable rural populations.

Dr. Kwamena K. Quagrainie has been appointed as a Clinical Engagement Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics. Kwamena earned a bachelor’s degree in agriculture from the University of Science and Technology, Ghana and his master’s and doctorate in agricultural economics from University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. Kwamena has been with Purdue for the past 7 years in the Department of Agricultural Economics as Director of Aquaculture Marketing and also as the Aquaculture Marketing Specialist with the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program. His primary extension responsibilities focus on providing assistance to Indiana aquaculture producers in pursuing and realizing economic and market development opportunities, which includes providing training and educational materials for farmers and Extension Educators in aquaculture business management and marketing. His applied research program consists of market analysis, market definition, facilitating the development of distribution, and identification of value-added opportunities for aquaculture products.

Dr. Michael Langemeier has been appointed as a Clinical Engagement Professor of Agricultural Economics. Michael is the Associate Director of the Center for Commercial Agriculture. He received a B.S. and M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1984 and 1986, and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Purdue University in 1990. Prior to returning to Purdue last July, he spent 22 years at Kansas State University (KSU) as a professor in agricultural economics. Dr. Langemeier’s extension and research interests include crop insurance, cropping systems, benchmarking, strategic management, and tax management. He has presented material on these topics to state, national, and international audiences. In addition to his extension and research work, Michael has taught courses in farm management and economic theory.

Alexa Colella joined the Center for Food and Agricultural Business in May 2013 as a Marketing Assistant for the Center for Food and Agricultural Business. She assists in the implementation of the center’s various marketing efforts and managing the center’s customer database. Alexa holds a bachelor’s degree from St. Lawrence University and a master’s degree from Purdue University.

Michael Fairchild joined the Center for Food and Agricultural Business in July 2013 as a graphic designer. Michael plays a vital role in idea generation for the Center’s marketing strategies, and his goal is to strengthen and unify the Center’s visual impact. He develops concepts for and will be designing all of the Center’s marketing pieces and educational material. Michael holds a bachelor’s degree in visual communications design from Purdue University.
Brenda Pearl retired from Purdue University on Thursday, January 31, 2013 after a 25-year career; most of which she served as the Department Head secretary and office manager. The ceremony and reception honoring Brenda’s retirement was held in the Krannert Drawing Room. We can never repay Brenda for all that she’s done for the department, supporting three department heads and many faculty over the years, and we wish her well in retirement.

OBITUARIES

Dr. Paul L. Farris, 93, of West Lafayette, died on January 10, 2013. Dr. Farris was born November 10, 1919, near Vincennes, to James D. and Fairy J. Farris. He married Rachel Rutherford on August 16, 1953, in Springport, and resided in West Lafayette. Following military service, he earned a B.S.A. from Purdue in 1949, M.S. from University of Illinois in 1950, and Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1954. He was a faculty member in Agricultural Economics at Purdue from 1952 to 1990, serving as Department Head from 1974 to 1983. He was an early member of the AAEA Foundation Governing Board and Governing Board President in 1987-88. He was elected a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 1988.

Dr. Julian Hutchinson “Jake” Atkinson died Friday, February 1, 2013, in Santa Barbara, California at the age of 88. Dr. Atkinson, recently of Florida, was born July 14, 1924, in Green County, Georgia, a son of the late Frederick William and Mary Lou Hutchinson Atkinson. Professor Atkinson came to Purdue as a graduate student in February 1951, was hired as an Assistant Professor in 1954, and promoted to Associate Professor in 1958 and Professor in 1962. Professor Atkinson’s career included the traditional land grant college activities of research, teaching, and extension as well as work in international development. His research and extension interests included such diverse areas as farm insurance management, contract hog production, agricultural banking, farm management, economic and market outlook, land values and land tenure. He taught farm management, farm finance, farm appraisal, international development, macroeconomics and, in Portuguese, farm finance, land economics and research methods as a part of the Purdue faculty group that worked in Brazil in the 1960’s. Dr. Atkinson’s long tenure included work with the Farm Credit Administration, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the University of Florida, and Auburn University. He also completed assignments in Portugal, Guinea-Bissau, Brazil and several other Latin American countries. Dr. Atkinson served for over a decade as secretary-treasurer of the Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. He was director of the School of Farm Mutual Insurance Company Management and the Purdue Agricultural Banking School, and also coordinator of the Purdue Agricultural Bankers Clinic, annual Production Credit Association seminar and various other extension programs. At the time of his retirement in 1998 he was best known for his work in land values and leasing arrangements.
Last year a group of alumni from the Agricultural Economics department created a fund to support future generations of Ag Econ graduate students. That alumni group established the Agricultural Econ Graduate Endowment in May of 2012. Their passion for Purdue Agriculture and the Agricultural Economics department, along with their gratitude for the Agricultural Economics faculty that taught them, is what motivated the creation of the endowment. The endowment will support graduate students and their professional development in the Department of Agricultural Economics. If you would like to contribute to the fund go to https://ag.purdue.edu/giving/ and click on “Make a Gift.” Please write “Ag Econ Grad Endowment (017992)” on the memo line of the check or on the online form. For questions about the fund please contact Kyle Bymaster (bymastkd@purdue.edu or 765-494-8672).