

Keeping Track

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Vol. XVIII No. 5

Winter 2015

Welcome to Keeping Track, Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Economics' annual newsletter. Please take a moment to review what has been going on over the past year in our department and learn what our graduate and undergraduate students have been up to, from impressive awards to great scholarship. Stay up-to-date on our faculty and their research and activities, as well as review past events and check out what some of our incredible alumni are accomplishing. Get all your news here, in Ag Econ's Annual Keeping Track. Thank you!



Dr. Larry DeBoer, recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in Memory of Charles B. Murphy

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS



"Become educated. Education is the one thing that no one can ever take from you." These words of advice were delivered last spring by Mrs. Evelyn Ott to a group of Purdue Agricultural Economics students. These students were beneficiaries of the Leland Ott Memorial Scholarship, established by Mrs. Ott to honor her late husband and Purdue Ag Econ Alum Dr. Leland Ott. During one of our recent podcasts, we asked another scholarship donor Mr. Jim Hicks why he has given over one million dollars for Purdue Ag Econ students – his response? Supporting student scholarships is a way to give something that will continue giving and build future leaders. Through the generosity of friends and alumni such as these, last year Purdue Ag Econ students received about \$850,000 in scholarship support. This is an average of almost \$1,500 per student majoring in our department against an estimated \$20,000 in annual tuition and living expenses. These donations help alleviate the financial burden for our students so they can focus on educating themselves and maturing into strong leaders. We could not be more grateful for your support. Getting involved in campus leadership and self-discovery activities like study abroad is a big part of our department's culture. Scholarships free up students' time so they can take advantage of these opportunities as well as lower their stress levels so they can focus. We are devoted to life-time learning and discovery and scholarships enable so many students to take part in what we do. The research and outreach activities that Purdue Ag Econ faculty and staff are engaged in make it possible for people all over the world to continue acquiring knowledge in the areas of food, agricultural, and natural resources. Please join us in spreading the word about Purdue Ag Econ and its impact and, whatever you do, – don't stop learning.

- Dr. Ken Foster, Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics

SPECIAL FEATURE



In May of 2015, a Purdue Honorary Doctorate degree was conferred upon **Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for the federal government of Nigeria. After earning his master's and doctorate degrees in agricultural economics from Purdue, Dr. Adesina dedicated his career to improving the agricultural sector in Africa. He held positions in agricultural development at various organizations before joining the Rockefeller Foundation in 1998. He was vice president for policy and partnerships at the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa from 2007 until he was named to his current position in 2010. He introduced innovative programs that empowered more than six million farmers and shifted Nigerian agriculture toward a more business-oriented industry. He also led financing initiatives to support youth engagement in agriculture as well as small and medium enterprises. Under Adesina's leadership, Nigeria's food production has expanded by 21 million metric tons, and the country has attracted \$5.6 billion in private sector investments in agriculture. His application of economic principles and the power of markets to public policy creation has resulted in improved livelihoods for many Nigerian rural households. In June, 2015, **Dr. Akinwumi Adesina** was elected as President of the African Development Bank.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Homecoming / Ag Alumni
Pancake Breakfast**
Saturday, November 7, 2015
Purdue vs. Illinois
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Tailgate Tent - North End of
Memorial Mall
No reservations required.

The AgEcon faculty team that will be present in the COA Department Display Tent are:

Prof. Emeritus Henry "Hank" Wadworth, Professor Larry DeBoer, Associate Professor Michael Gunderson, and Assistant Professor, Bhagyashree Katare

The **Snyder Memorial Lecture** celebrated its 41st anniversary on Friday, April 10, 2015. The Snyder Lecture honors the late James C. Snyder, a professor of agricultural economics, who was widely recognized for his teaching and research. Each year a guest lecturer is invited to come speak. This year Helen Jensen from Iowa State University presented, "*An Economist's Perspective on Policies to Target Nutrition and Dietary Choices*".

The **Annual APEX Awards** are presented to honor individuals with a strong connection to the Department who have made outstanding contributions in their fields.

This year's honorees are:

Dr. Augustine Sangson Langyintuo

International Finance
Corporation
World Bank Group

James Straeter

New Holland Rochester Group -
New Holland dealerships

Dr. Robert Tse

USDA California
Rural Development

Sarah Vacek

Monsanto Soy Quality Traits
Product Manager

2015 Food Drive: Congratulations to the Department for winning the traveling pitchfork trophy for the top donation to the College of Agriculture Food Finders Challenge for 2015. This year's challenge resulted in the College raising the equivalent of 36,551 meals, with \$10,400 in cash and 781 pounds of food for Food Finders Food Bank. The Ag Econ Food Drive coordinators were **Lou Ann Baugh** and **Carol Wood**. Thanks also to **Dr. Joan Fulton, Vicki Bower, Dana Braun** and graduate students **John Lai, Amie Osborn, Molly Van Dop, Kim Ha, German Marquez and Xin Zhao** for organizing events to benefit the cause.

In early May, **Ariana Torres, Beth Lunik** and **Carissa McCay** traveled with **Dr. Ken Foster's** service-learning class *Water Supply for Developing Countries* to the Dominican Republic. This ongoing three-year project has helped bring clean drinking water to a school in Las Canas, Dominican Republic. The class works with students across disciplines in engineering, nursing, biology, and other majors.

GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATES

Jeffrey Michler received a Young Rice Scientist Award from the International Rice Congress. Jeff will also be presenting a paper at the Congress in Bangkok in late October and will also present his work at a seminar at the International Rice Research Institute in Los Banos, Philippines.

Jordan Chamberlin and **Dr. Jacob Ricker-Gilbert** received a “best contributed paper” award for their paper, “Land rental market development in Malawi: an empirical analysis of trends, drivers, participants and impacts,” presented at the 2014 Inaugural Economics Association of Malawi (ECAMA) Research Symposium.

Anna Josephson has been awarded an Andrews Environmental Travel Grant. The Andrews Environmental Grant was established to support research focused on improving the world environment.

Ariana Torres was selected to participate in the 2015 U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security. The U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security is an annual 2-week long learning program for graduate students attending U.S. institutions who are interested in developing a holistic understanding of the conceptual challenges around global food security.

Seong Do Yun received a Heartland Workshop Travel Grant to attend the 2014 Heartland Environmental & Resource Economics Workshop in Illinois to present his paper. His paper was coauthored with **Dr. Ben Gramig** and was: “Dynamic Optimization of Ecosystem Services: A Comparative Analysis of Non-Spatial and Spatially-Explicit Models.”

Congratulations to **Shanxia Sun** for being selected to receive a Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship. The Bilsland Dissertation Fellowship is a Graduate School fellowship which provides support to an outstanding College

of Education Ph.D. candidate in the final year of doctoral degree completion.

Carissa McCay has been selected as a Byron Fellow. This is an opportunity for emerging leaders to engage in conversation and critical thinking activities relevant to each student’s discipline.

Yangxuan Liu was awarded Honorable Mention for Most Outstanding Interdisciplinary Project for 2015 by the Office of Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs. Her project was: “Risk management strategies using potato precision farming technology.”

David Boussios, Brian Bourquard, Kim Ha and **Yangxuan Liu**, coached by **Dr. Michael Gunderson**, earned 2nd place among 16 teams from around the world in the annual International Food and Agribusiness Management Association’s Case Study Competition.



David Boussios received a Teaching Academy Graduate Teaching Award. This award honors graduate students with teaching responsibilities from across campus for their dedication to Purdue students and their outstanding teaching contributions.

Luis Moisés Peña Lévano, a fourth-year Ph.D. candidate from Chinchá Alta, Peru, specializing in international agricultural trade won first place in the Graduate Student Extension Competition. He also won the AAEA-Latin American Section Outstanding Research Paper Award. Additional congratulations to **Luis Moisés Peña-Levano** who has been awarded a Ludwig Kruhe Fellow-



ship. The Ludwig Kruhe Fellowship was established as a “means for promoting a deeper interest in world problems, to the end that a better understanding of international relationships and world affairs may be advanced.”

Molly Van Dop recently finished her first year of her master’s program and took second place in the AAEA Extension competition.

Departmental Awards:

Graduate Student Poster, 1st Place - **Xin Zhao**, Advisors: **Dr. Wallace Tyner**, **Dr. Tristan Brown**. “*Stochastic Techno-Economic Evaluation of Cellulosic Biofuel Pathways*”

Graduate Student Poster, 2nd Place - **Elizabeth Dobis**, Advisors: **Dr. Michael Delgado**, **Dr. Raymond Florax**. “*The Evolution of Community Development in the United States*”

Outstanding Master’s Thesis, 1st Place - **Michaela Jellicoe**. Advisor: **Michael Delgado**. “*Underground Natural Gas Storage: An examination of Property Values in Indiana*”

Honorable Mention - **Jiangyi Qian**, Advisor: **Phil Abbott** “*Breakthrough of Sub-Saharan Africa’s Agricultural Production in the 21st Century: The Role of Foreign Aid*”

Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation - **Tia McDonald**. Advisor: **Maria Marshall**. “*Success and Resilience: Three Essays Analyzing Small Business Behavior Using Multivariate Estimation Techniques*”

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT UPDATES

Sam Ebenkamp (Jasper, IN) won the Indiana Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet held at Purdue in Fall 2014. The Discussion Meet contest is designed to simulate a committee meeting, where discussion and active participation are expected from each participant.

Jacquelyn Brown (Eagle Point, OR) was chosen by Land O'Lakes as one of the 2014-2015 Emerging Leaders for Food Security program. The yearlong Global Food Challenge Emerging Leaders for Food Security fellowship provides an opportunity for 10 students at five universities to identify innovative and practical ways to meet the world's need for a 70 percent increase in global food production.

Sarah Correll (Macy, IN) was appointed to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE) this summer. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is a 14-member public body created to ensure that Indiana's higher education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state.



The Purdue Boilers claimed their first national livestock judging championship since 1978. The Purdue Livestock Judging Team competed at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville and earned the top prize out of 29 teams. **Logan Rinehold** (Auburn, IN), **Breanna Lawyer** (Shirley, IN), **Mark DeGolyer** (Lafayette, IN) **Isaak Mersch** (Twelve Mile, IN),

Brennen North (Wolcottville, IN) and **Andrew Huffman** (Bluffton, IN) were all members of the team.

Four students represented the Professional Sales and Marketing Association (PSMA) in St. Louis, MO, at Monsanto's Corporate Headquarters. **Shane Grime** (Fort Wayne, IN), **Ben Knapke** (Portland, IN), **Clayton Michael-Butler** (Mulberry, IN) and **Brian Wagler** (Milroy, IN) presented the case study, "Analysis of Monsanto's Vistive Gold Soybeans" to 14 Monsanto executives in late February.

Former Ag Econ student, **Jackson Troxel**, has collaborated with current Ag Business student, **Cody Walburn** (Bluffton, IN), to create a new club on Purdue's campus: ICA Future. These two innovators started with the mission to connect international and domestic students on campus, specifically within the College of Agriculture.

Cameron Mann (Cloverdale, IN) and **Amy Burbrink** (North Vernon, IN) were chosen by Purdue University Grand Prix Foundation as their Grand Prix Ambassadors to promote the event to Purdue University and the local community.

Cameron Mann and **Kaila Taylor** (Uniondale, IN) were selected as 2015 Indiana Pork Youth Ambassadors. They will attend several public events and have the opportunity to go one-on-one with consumers to promote the pork industry.



Cameron Mann was appointed by Governor Pence on May 11, 2015, to serve a two-year term as the student trustee to the Purdue Board of Trustees as its Student Trustee. A selection committee interviews each applicant and selects ten finalists to be interviewed by the Governor.

Mindy Boyer (Kirklin, IN), **Sarah Correll**, (Macy, IN) and **Andrew Johnson**, (Orleans, IN) were elected to the 2015-16 Barbara Cook Chapter of Mortar Board. Mortar Board members are selected for their superior scholarship, dedication to service to the university community and outstanding leadership.



The Purdue Agricultural Economics Academic Quiz Bowl Team won their second consecutive national championship at the AAEE 2015 annual meeting in San Francisco. Led by their coach Dr. Gunderson, they competed against 31 other teams. The Purdue Gold Team consists of (L to R) **Wuzheqian (Jason) Xia** (Jiangxi, China), **Elizabeth Blinn**, (Warren, IN) and **Andrew Johnson** (Orleans, IN).

Andrew Johnson: Outstanding Academic Senior G.P.A.

Andrew Johnson: David and Stacy Hefty Outstanding Sr. in Ag Econ

Luke Wildhaber: Outstanding Freshman

Brandon Blunt: Outstanding Sophomore

Sarah Correll: Outstanding Junior

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Janet Ayres received the John Nierderman Rural Development Leadership Award for dedicating over 30 years to improve the quality of life in Rural Indiana. She was recognized at the Housing and Community Economic Development Statewide Conference.

Drs. Corinne Alexander, Jess Lowenberg-DeBoer, Joan Fulton and Jacob Ricker-Gilbert were members of the Purdue Improved Crop Storage (PICS) Team that received the Corps of Engagement Award. This is awarded to a team of faculty, staff, students, and/or community stakeholders for outstanding partnership and achievement in the scholarship of engagement.

Dr. Jim Mintert received the 2014 Director's Award at the Extension 2014 Professional Development conference.

Dr. Kwamena Quagraine has been elected to serve a 2-year term as Director of the U.S. Aquaculture Society (USAS). USAS is a part of the World Aquaculture Society and is a worldwide professional organization dedicated to the exchange of information and the networking among the diverse aquaculture constituencies interested in the advancement of the aquaculture industry.

Dr. Otto Doering was chosen from among an outstanding roster of nominees as an expert reviewer for *Global Climate Change, Food Security, and the U.S. Food System*, a report being led by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in support of the U.S. National Climate Assessment. **Dr. Otto Doering** was also reappointed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Department of Interior's Invasive Species Advisory Committee.

Dr. Kevin McNamara received the 2014 USDA Secretary's Honor Award for Global Food Security. The award was in recognition of the Afghanistan Agricultural Extension Project, a USDA funded

project with Purdue, UC Davis, Washington State University and University of Maryland.

Dr. Jerry Shively participated in Class X of the LEAD21 program. The primary purpose of LEAD21 is to develop leaders in land grant institutions and their strategic partners who link research, academics and extension in order to lead more effectively in an increasingly complex environment.

Ag Econ faculty were the recipients of USDA grants supporting economic growth for rural communities for fiscal year 2014:

Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities – Environment: **Dr. Tom Hertel** and co-PI, **Dr. Alla Golub**

Agricultural Economics and Rural Communities – Economics, Markets and Trade: **Dr. Nelson Villoria** and co-PIs, **Drs. Paul Preckel and Tom Hertel.**

Fiscal year 2014 Small and Medium-Sized Farms include: **Dr. Maria Marshall** and co-PIs **Drs. Michael Delgado and Craig Dobbins.**

Five Ag Econ faculty were honored at a February luncheon for receiving grants of 1 Million or more in fiscal year 2014.

Honorees are:

**Drs. Corinne Alexander
Jess Lowenberg-DeBoer
Kevin McNamara
Paul Preckel
Kwamena Quagraine
Jacob Ricker-Gilbert**

Dr. Craig Dobbins, Dr. David Perkis and **LeeAnn Williams** were team members of Learning Community Instructors for the Women in Agribusiness and Plant Science LC that received the 2014-15 Learning Community Exceptional Event Planner award. This award recognizes outstanding achievement

in planning events and activities and creating opportunities for students to be exposed to campus resources, cultural events, service activities, social engagement and academic connection.

Purdue Agricultural Economist, **Dr. Benjamin Gramig**, along with other Purdue collaborators, were awarded funding for research projects that will use existing data and tools to bolster the success of nutrient reduction plans and determine the economic value of southern Lake Michigan's recreational fishery from the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant.

Dr. Raymond Florax has been elected a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International, a world-wide scholarly association with 4,000+ members with an interest in regional impacts of national or global processes of economic and social change.



Dr. Larry DeBoer was named a recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in Memory of Charles B. Murphy. The University's highest undergraduate teaching honor, the Murphy Award is accompanied by a cash award and induction into Purdue's Teaching Academy, which provides leadership for the improvement of undergraduate, graduate and outreach teaching.

The Helping Hands Award was present to **Dr. Gerald Harrison** for his service to youth tennis programs in the community.

FACULTY NEWS

The Space, Health and Population Economics (SHaPE) research group of the Department of Agricultural Economics, the Purdue Center for Regional Development (PCRD) and the Economic Research Service/USDA joined forces to examine intergenerational socio-economic mobility, with a prime focus on the processes and factors that trigger a way out of poverty and resilience to the inter-generational transfer of poverty. The project is funded by ERS/USDA through a \$300K Innovative Research grant. Investigators are: **Drs. Bo Beaulieu, Michael Delgado, Raymond Florax and Brigitte Waldorf.**

Purdue's Morrill Award was given to **Dr. Wally Tyner** at the Faculty Awards Convocation in recognition of his excellence in teaching, research and engagement, as well as in demonstrating synergies among those missions. Tyner was one of three university faculty receiving this award. **Dr. Wallace Tyner** also joined an elite group of Ag Economists when he was selected as an Honorary Life Member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists, which is equivalent to a Fellow.

Drs. Otto Doering, Benjamin Gramig and Paul Preckel are members of the Useful to Usable (U2U) Team that received the College of Agriculture Team Award for their research, "Transforming Climate Variability and Change Information for Cereal Crop Producers".



Dr. Holly Wang was named an Entrepreneurial Leadership Academy Fellow. She was also one of the authors who received The 2014 Outstanding Paper Award from the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence for, "Agricultural Marketing and Food Safety in China: A Utility Perspective." **Dr. Holly Wang** traveled with the Indiana 2015 China Trade Mission led by Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann to Hangzhou, Chengdu and Beijing as a Purdue Agriculture delegate. The delegation visited several Chinese provinces and signed memos of understanding with those provincial governments about collaboration in economic, business and trade.

Dr. Adriela Fernandez has been selected for a Fulbright Specialist grant to work in the design and implementation of a new academic program in North American Studies at the Rafael Landívar University, in Guatemala City, Guatemala.



Dr. Chris Hurt received the Indiana Prairie Farmer 2015 Honorary Master Farmer Award. Prairie Farmer sponsors the Master Farmer awards program to recognize farmers who excel not only in farming but also in community service, family commitment and leadership.

Dr. Joe Balagtas and his co-authors won the award for Best Paper published in *Agricultural Economics* in 2014, for their paper "Did the Commodity Price Spike Increase Poverty? Evidence from a Long-run Panel in Bangladesh."

Drs. Corinne Alexander, Joe Balagtas and Roman Keeney were appointed to the editorial board of Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy (AEPP). AEPP informs policymakers and the applied economic research community by presenting high quality research.

Dr. Farzad Taheripour participated in the 2015 Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security and led a panel on biofuels.



Dr. Joan Fulton, along with **Dr. Tahirou Abdoulaye** (MS and PhD AgEcon) and other colleagues from Ghana and Nigeria lead three Trainer of Trainers workshops in Ghana for the PICS 3 Project. The workshops were held in Ejura, Techiman and Tamale. Dr. Abdoulaye is now an Economist with the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and Purdue's partner for the PICS 3 Project in Ghana.

Faculty Promotions:

Dr. Corinne Alexander was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor.

Dr. Kwamena Quagraine was promoted from Clinical Engagement Assistant Professor to Clinical Engagement Associate Professor.

Dr. Farzad Taheripour was promoted from Research Assistant Professor to Research Associate Professor.

ALUMNI

Former Ag Econ professor **Dr. Howard Doster** was one of the recipients of a Purdue Ag Alumni's Certificate of Distinction at the Ag Alumni Fish Fry held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in February 2015. The certificate is the highest award of the Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association, and recognizes those who have contributed significantly to agriculture through professional accomplishments, activities and community service. Other alumni from the department were also honored, Michael Shuter (B.S. 1973) and Dan Arnholt (B.S. 1968).

Distinguished Ag Alumni:

The College of Agriculture presented its highest honor, the Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Awards, on April 3, 2015. 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.

Awardees:

Dr. Vicki McCracken (MS 1981, PHD 1984) Dr. Vicki McCracken is a professor of agricultural economics at Washington State University. In 1994 she was appointed Associate Director of Washington State's Agricultural Research Center and has held critical leadership positions ever since, including Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs for the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resources; Associate Vice President and Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Services at the university level; Interim Associate Director for Washington State's Agricultural Research Center; to her current position as Associate Director and Professor in the School of Economic Sciences. Dr. McCracken's program extends beyond leadership and includes widespread teaching, student advising and mentoring. In addition to her teaching-related activities, Dr. McCracken has a steady stream of external grant funding to support her research. She has been a key player in the agricultural economics profession through service on numerous national and regional committees.



Craig Newman (BS 1971) Craig Newman is president and CEO of AgReliant Genetics, an innovative seed company representing seven different brands of corn, soybeans, and alfalfa seed from corporate headquarters based in Westfield, Indiana. In 2000, Mr. Newman was named Vice President of Sales and Marketing for AgReliant Genetics, a joint venture formed by the French-based Limagrain and the German-based cooperative, KWS. He was appointed to his current position in 2012. Over the past 14 years, AgReliant Genetics' seven seed brands have grown in sales volume by more than 300 percent and the company ranks as the third largest corn seed company in North America, with nearly a 7 percent share of the market.

Christopher Novak (Executive MS 2003) Chris Novak is CEO of the National Corn Growers Association, a position he took in 2014, replacing Rick Tolman. Mr. Novak follows Mr. Tolman in another way, too: Rick Tolman was a Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus in 2014. The National Corn Growers Association represents the interests of more than 300 thousand farmers who participate in the corn check-off program. Mr. Novak earned his bachelor's degree in public service and administration in agriculture from Iowa State University and has spent many years in service to agriculture. In 2008, he was named CEO of the National Pork Board, overseeing an annual operating budget of \$85 million. Mr. Novak earned his Juris Doctor degree from the University Of Iowa College Of Law, and his Executive Masters in Business Administration in Food and Agribusiness from Purdue.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Mid America CropLife Association
Farmers National Company Foundation Scholarship
John Deere Scholarship
R. Dean Dyson Scholarship
Marshall A. Martin Public Policy Scholarship
F. Van Smith Scholarship
Bartlett Family Scholarship in Agricultural Economics
Raymond "Mick" Ortman Scholarship in Agricultural Economics

Indiana Challenge Match for Ag Econ
Indiana Challenge Scholarship
Donald and Joyce Villwock Scholarship
Hartman Family Scholarship
Leighton M. & Helen May Geyer Scholarship in Agricultural Economics
Dr. Steve Erickson Memorial ICM Scholarship

Co-Bank Scholarship

Jim and Neta Hicks Undergraduate Scholarship

Scholarship Fund for Study Abroad
Lowell S. Hardin Scholarship for International Studies

David and Stacy Hefty Outstanding Sr. in Ag Econ
Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers

Cameron Mann
Daron Wilson
Armenda Boyer
Henry Harrell
Amy Burbrink
Brian Wagler
Abigail McClelland
Kylie Echard
Clate Kaiser
Paige Pearl
Christy Kettler
Riley Lewis
Lindsey Marchal
Gretchen Beyler
Rachel Stowers
Lucas Beebe
Jordan Cory
Adrienne Trennepohl
Cameron Mann
Erin Morrison
Armenda Boyer
Jacquelyn Brown
Katie Carroll
Kinzie Davis
Bridget Elston
Zach Frazier
Shane Grime
Jessica Harsh
Nicole Korniak
Marshall Perkins
Luke Wildhaber
Emily Wyrick
Katie Barnett
Gretchen Beyler
Emmalee Koester
Alexandra Martin
Joseph Morman
Andrew Johnson
Morgan Cox
Bridget Elston

CENTER NEWS

Purdue's Department of Agricultural Economics houses several centers focused on the three Land Grant Missions of research, teaching and outreach. These centers leverage the discoveries of our faculty in order to magnify the impact of their intellect. These impacts range the gamut of local, state, national, and global needs such as empowering local community decisions, training for primary and secondary teachers in teaching financial literacy, informing the decisions of agribusinesses and farms and supporting sound public policy choices facing humanity such as a climate change, sustainability and energy security.

Center for Food & Agricultural Business

CAB: During fiscal year 2015, 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. The center offered nine open-enrollment programs reaching 246 participants from 34 states and three countries. The Precision Selling program was offered three different times this year and the Sales Management and Leadership program had a waiting list. This demand for sales programs illustrates the agribusiness industry's interest in preparing the salesforce for the current market transition. The center also reached 496 participants from 29 states and three countries through 58 days of custom programming designed to help company leaders address critical strategy decisions.

Center faculty started research to understand the role of talent management in successfully competing in the food and agribusiness industry. Research began with a survey of more than 600 agribusiness professionals regarding performance management, or the formal review process. The key takeaway is that there is opportunity to improve performance management in the industry.

Center for Commercial Agricultural

CCA: Now in its fourth year, the Center for Commercial Agriculture offers a variety of programs in 2015 targeted towards a diverse farm audience. The center partnered with the Indiana Soybean Alliance to develop an innovative set of educational materials focused on helping farmers identify the risks their farms face and, importantly, how they can better anticipate risks and create multiple flexible strategies to help manage those risks, culminating

in development of a new web site, farm-riskresources.com, devoted to improving farmers' strategic risk management skills. The center also partnered with Farm Credit Mid-America to deliver a series of farm business management workshops in Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio for beginning farmers. With enrollment deadlines for participation in the new farm program looming, the center partnered with the Farm Service Agency to provide a series of 7 Indiana workshops attended by over 1200 farmers and landowners to help them understand the nuances of the 2014 Farm Bill. During 2015 the Center launched a series of webinars focused on topics ranging from adjusting to the new economic environment in crop agriculture to updated crop outlook information following key USDA reports.

Global Trade Analysis Project)

GTAP: GTAP (Global Trade Analysis Project) is a global network of researchers and policy makers conducting quantitative analysis of international policy issues. GTAP's goal is to improve the quality of quantitative analysis of global economic issues within an economy-wide framework. The [2015 GTAP Advisory Board Meeting](#) was held on June 15-16, 2015 in Melbourne, Australia. The purpose of this meeting of GTAP Consortium members was to advise the Center on matters of policy, research agenda and funding. The meeting was attended by economists and policy advisors representing many of the GTAP Consortium agencies.

The [18th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis](#), "Information for the Policy Maker: Practical Economic Modelling for Tomorrow" was held from June 17-19, 2015 in Melbourne, Australia. The annual conferences on global economic analysis are long-standing offerings of the Center for Global Trade Analysis which

strive to promote the exchange of ideas among economists conducting quantitative analysis of global economic issues while becoming part of the international GTAP Network. The 23rd [Annual Short Course in Global Trade Analysis](#), "Introduction to Applied General Equilibrium Analysis in a Multi-Region Framework" was held on Purdue's campus in West Lafayette, Indiana, from July 11-17, 2015. In October 2015, the Center for Global Trade Analysis offered the 2015 Short Course in Dynamic Global Trade Analysis on Purdue's campus in West Lafayette, Indiana. The Center for Global Trade Analysis offered two GTAP 101 courses in 2015.

Indiana Council for Economic Education

ICEE: The **Indiana Council for Economic Education (ICEE)** continues to provide leadership, education, and resources in the area of economic and financial education to K-12 teachers and youth educators in Indiana. Over 700 teachers and educators, and over 10,000 students, participated in programs presented by the ICEE. The Econ Camp for High School teachers is the signature program of the fall semester. The two state winning teams (both from Carmel HS) of the high school [Econ Challenge Competition](#) advanced to the national finals and finished second in their respective divisions. Additional highlights from the year include the growth of the [Smart Indiana](#) personal finance initiative. This year, ICEE delivered four regional workshops and grew participation in the associated student competitions (Stock Market Game and Personal Finance Challenge). The second [Smart Indiana statewide summit](#) in Indianapolis was held in April for youth financial educators and a statewide [summer conference](#) for classroom teachers was hosted in July. Visit the ICEE website, www.econed-in.org to learn more about upcoming programs and instructional resources.

NEW FACES

Faculty:

Dr. Bhagyashree Katare joined the department in August of 2015. Dr. Katare earned her Bachelor of Technology in Chemical Engineering from Nagpur University, India. She earned her Master of Financial Mathematics degree, Master of Science degree in Applied Economics, and a Doctorate in Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota. During her doctoral program, Dr. Katare was adjunct faculty at St. Catherine University and Minneapolis Community and Technical College where she taught courses in Economics and Statistics. She has also worked as a consultant for World Bank and Young Lives Project.

Dr. Katare's research interests are in the economics of food, health, nutrition, and particularly on the empirical analysis of consumption behavior related to health outcomes. Her current research centers on the economic determinants of weight gain and the spread of obesity. In the next few years, Dr. Katare will develop a research program focused on understanding how environmental factors and peers influence the health choices and decisions of individuals. Her teaching responsibilities will include an undergraduate course in agricultural marketing



Staff:

Taryn Nance joined the Center for Food and Agricultural Business as a Program Manager, for the Purdue-Kelly MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management. Taryn is responsible for the development, implementation and promotion of the MS-MBA dual degree program including scheduling, planning and implementing logistical details of on-campus orientations and residencies. She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Evansville and a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado. Before joining the center, Taryn was a college sales representative for a customized student planner company.



Jennifer Stewart-Burton joined the Center for Food and Agricultural Business as content Marketing and Social Media Manager. Jennifer is responsible for creating and coordinating content for online and print marketing campaigns; writing and editing magazine articles, news releases, and blogs; and managing the center's social media presence. She graduated from Purdue in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural communication and minors in sociology and communication. Before joining the center, Jennifer spent nearly nine years in Purdue's Department of Agricultural Communication in various roles culminating as a strategic communication specialist for agricultural research in the plant sciences.



STAFF UPDATES

University Years of Service Awards were presented to **Ginger Batta** (10), **Debby Weber** (15),

Amy Cochran (20) and **Betty Jones Bliss** (35).

Tracy Buck – 2015 Clerical Department Service Award (*also mentioned under Snyder Lecture)

Luanna DeMay – 2015 Administrative Professional Department Service Award (*also mentioned under Snyder)

July Promotion: **David Widmar**, Research Associate in the Center for Commercial Agriculture was promoted from Rank 3 to Rank 4

Quick Reference
Department of Agricultural Economics
765-494-4191

Department Head
Kenneth Foster, Ph.D.
kfoster@purdue.edu

Associate Head
Joan Fulton, Ph.D.
fultonj@purdue.edu

Associate Head
Director, Graduate Programs
Gerald Shively, Ph.D.
shivelyg@purdue.edu

Associate Head
Undergraduate Programs
Craig Dobbins, Ph.D.
cdobbins@purdue.edu

Extension Coordinator
Christopher Hurt, Ph.D.
hurtc@purdue.edu

Director, Center for
Global Trade Analysis
Dominique van der Mensbrugge
vandermd@purdue.edu

Director, Center for
Commercial Agriculture
James Mintert
jmintert@purdue.edu

Director, Center for
Food and Agricultural Business,
and Director, Purdue-Kelly MS-MBA
Alan Gray, Ph.D.
gray@purdue.edu

Coordinator, Center for
Rural Development
Janet Ayres, Ph.D.
ayres@purdue.edu

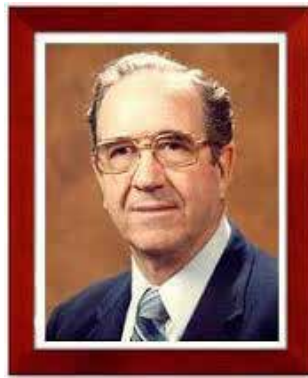
Executive Director, Indiana Council for
Economic Education
Jeffrey Sanson
jjsanson@purdue.edu

RETIREMENTS & OBITUARIES

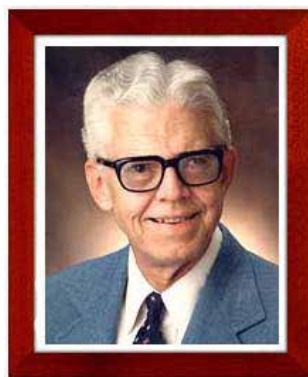
Dr. Janet Ayres retired from the department on April 30, 2015. Janet Ayres joined the Department of Agricultural Economics in 1977 as a research associate in rural development. After completing her Ph.D. in sociology, she joined the faculty in 1983 as an Extension specialist. Her work focused on building the capacity of rural leaders, and professionals from state and federal organizations that serve rural areas, to address community change, create strategic direction, build collaborative leadership, and manage conflict. Janet has held over 60 leadership positions in state, multi-state and national organizations. She has been recognized with numerous awards by state and national Extension organizations, Rural Sociology, Community Development Society, USDA/Rural Development, National Association of Conservation Districts, and her home community. She was a Fellow in the Kellogg National Leadership Program.



Obituaries:



Dr. William Farris died on April 23, 2015. Dr. Farris was born December 20, 1916 in Alma, Arkansas, the son of William and Viola Starbird Farris. Dr. Farris graduated from the University of Arkansas with a B.S. in 1937. In 1946 he earned a M.S. from the University of Arkansas, and joined the Arkansas State College faculty in 1949 where he taught agricultural marketing. Dr. Farris came to Purdue University and earned his Ph.D. in 1955, thereby joining the faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics where he specialized in grain marketing.



Dr. Lowell S. Hardin died on April 28, 2015. Dr. Hardin was born November 16, 1917 on a general livestock farm in Henry County near Knightstown, Indiana, to J. Fred Hardin and Mildred Stewart Hardin, and resided in West Lafayette for many years. Dr. Hardin earned his bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue in 1939 and his doctorate from Cornell University in 1943. He was a member of the Purdue agricultural economics department faculty from 1943 to 1965 and served as department head from 1953 to 1965. He was elected professor emeritus in 1984. He helped open the door into international development in Africa, and organized the international seminar series which brought world-class agricultural scientists to campus and created an awareness of how Purdue research and engagement could change the world.

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

Department of Agricultural Economics
403 W. State St.
Krannert Building
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2056

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 74
Lafayette, IN

Department of Agricultural Economics

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY

Supporting the Next Generation of Ag Econ Students

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).