Purdue University Agricultural Economics Faculty

Dr. Jayson Lusk

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- Department Head/Distinguished Professor
- B.S. in Food Technology, Kansas State University
- Ph.D. Kansas State University

Dr. Jayson Lusk is Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. He was previously Regents Professor and Willard Sparks Endowed Chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University and Assistant Professor at Mississippi State and Purdue. Lusk is a food and agricultural economist who studies what we eat and why we eat it. Since 2000, Lusk has published more than 200 journal articles in peer reviewed journals, including several of the most cited papers in the profession. He has served on the editorial councils of eight academic journals including the American Journal of Agricultural Economics, the Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, and Food Policy. He was elected to and served on the executive committees of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association, the Western Agricultural Economics Association, and most recently the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association for which he served as president. Lusk was named a fellow of the AAEA in 2015.


Dr. Holly Wang

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- 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 and 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,
Dr. Wang is 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, and AAEA Executive Board Director, 2014-2017. She also holds titles of Chinese Cheung Kong Scholar and QianRen Plan Economist.

Brady Brewer

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- Assistant Professor
- B.S. Agricultural Economics & Accounting, Oklahoma State Univ.
- M.S. Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University
- Ph.D. Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Dr. Brady Brewer grew up on a family farm in Oklahoma that raised wheat, soybeans, alfalfa, and cattle. He received a B.S. in agricultural economics and Accounting from Oklahoma State University and later earned both his M.S. and Ph.D from Kansas State University in agricultural economics. Upon completion of his graduate studies, he has spent the last couple of years serving as an assistant professor at the University of Georgia in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

His research agenda includes the broader topics of agribusiness and profitability, agricultural finance, and production/supply chain issues at the farm level. His extension program includes educating farmers on credit concerns and lending as well as working with the agricultural banks across the state. Courses that he has previously taught include agribusiness management and agricultural finance courses at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

When asked what he hopes to bring to Purdue, Brady told us that growing up on a farm in Oklahoma allowed him to see the first-hand impact that a university’s extension program can play in enhancing the profitability of a farm. He’s excited for the opportunity to work with farmers, agribusinesses, and agricultural lenders to help them by providing timely and impactful insights into the agricultural economy.
Dr. Michael Delgado

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- Associate Professor
- B.S. Economics, cum laude, University of the Pacific
- M.A. Economics, Binghamton University
- Ph.D. Economics, Binghamton University

Dr. Michael Delgado received his Ph.D. in economics from Binghamton University. His research focuses on application of semiparametric and nonparametric econometrics to environmental and developmental issues. Some recent research has focused on econometric analyses of pollution prevention programs, private provision of environmental public goods, and the effects of education and foreign investment on economic development in developing countries.

Dr. Michael Langemeier

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- Professor
- M.S. University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Ph.D. Purdue University

Dr. Michael Langemeier joined Purdue University in July 2012. Michael’s Extension and research interests include cropping systems, benchmarking, strategic management, cost of production, and technical and economic efficiency. Most of Dr. Langemeier’s research has focused on the efficiency of farms and ranches, and crop and livestock production costs and efficiency. He has also conducted research related to tillage systems, biomass crops and the tradeoff between crop rotation profitability and water quality.

Prior to arriving at Purdue, Dr. Langemeier spent 22 years in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University. In addition to working on Extension and research projects, he taught courses in economic theory and farm management and worked closely with the Kansas Farm Management Association. He also conducted workshops for feed mill managers, emphasizing the importance of tracking financial performance, benchmarking and capital budgeting.

In addition to conducting numerous workshops and presenting Extension and research information to numerous audiences in the United States, he has conducted workshops and given presentations in Australia, China, Ecuador, Ireland, Germany, New Zealand, Russia, South Africa and Tanzania. He is currently involved in agribenchmark, an international benchmarking group centered in Germany.
Russell Hillberry

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- Associate Professor
- B.S. Economics, University of Minnesota
- M.S. and Ph.D. Economics, Indiana University

Professor Hillberry earned a bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of Minnesota and master’s and doctorate degrees in Economics from Indiana University. He has been employed as a research economist at the U.S. International Trade Commission, as a faculty member at the University of Melbourne, Australia, and most recently as a member of the research department of the World Bank. In 2001-2002, Russell was a visiting professor in the Economics department at Purdue. His research focuses on the geography of trade flows, the welfare consequences of trade costs, the efficacy of trade facilitation measures, and the organization of multi-stage production processes.

Dr. Christopher Hurt

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- Agricultural Economics Extension Coordinator/Professor
- Ph.D. University of Illinois

Professor Hurt joined the department in 1981. He teaches an undergraduate course in commodity marketing focused on grain and livestock. In Extension education, he coordinates the Department’s outlook program, evaluates farmer alternatives in government programs, teaches marketing principles and pricing alternatives, and provides price analysis and outlook for grains, hogs and cattle. His primary audiences are farmers and agribusiness managers.

He is interviewed by state and national media on agricultural and food topics. He serves as editor of the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report. Professor Hurt has received the USDA Superior Service Group Award, multiple awards from the Agriculture and Applied Economics Association, as well as multiple Indiana Extension Service Awards.
Dr. Jing Liu

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- Ph.D. Purdue University

Dr. Jing Liu has been working at the center of Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) after completing her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Her research mainly focuses on the nexus of water-land-climate-food. She develops and applies computable general and partial equilibrium models to analyze the impacts of climate change food security and sustainable development.

Jing is currently working on the integrated assessment modeling of sustainable agriculture. In this interdisciplinary research, she combines economic theory and high-resolution geophysical data to understand the heterogeneous response of agricultural production to environment-oriented policies. She contributes to developing a grid-resolving model that features unique yield and leaching functions at the 5 arcmin grid-cell level. The model will be used to study the long run projections of the economy under different climate scenarios, as well as to track the short-term changes needed to evaluate the implications of exceeding key biophysical thresholds. These short-term year-on-year simulations will carefully follow the sequence of climatic and environmental perturbations, including temperature, precipitation, and groundwater stocks. This study aims to provide policy recommendations to foster agricultural resilience in the face of increasing climate variability.

Marshall Martin

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- Professor, Agricultural Economics
- B.S. Agricultural Economics, Iowa State University
- Ph.D. Agricultural Economics, Purdue University

Marshall Martin is the interim director of the Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station, senior associate director of agricultural research, assistant dean of agriculture, director of the Purdue University Soybean Center, and a professor of agricultural economics at Purdue University. He earned his bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics from Iowa State University (1966), and his master’s degree and doctorate in agricultural economics from Purdue University (1972 and 1976, respectively).

Marshall is a specialist in agricultural policy, international trade and technology assessment (especially biotechnology and pesticide use), and decision making in agribusiness. He has received many research and teaching awards and supervised the research of more than 35 graduate students. He has authored several hundred research and Extension publications and three books. Marshall has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in agricultural price analysis, agricultural policy, and agribusiness decision making and research. He has been a speaker for nearly 1,000 Extension programs.
He has served in several administrative roles with the North Central Association of Agricultural Research Directors and USDA-NIFA. He was appointed by the secretary of agriculture to the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology for the United States Department of Agriculture. He co-chaired a national conference for the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council. For several years, Marshall was a member of the committee on biotechnology of the Division of Agriculture of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges and a member of the operating committee of the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council. For eight years, he served as chairman of three north central region food and agricultural policy research committees (NCT-118, NC-152 and NC-169). He currently serves on the board of directors of the Agricultural Alumni Seed Improvement Association, the Indiana Corn Marketing Council, Indiana Soybean Alliance, Indiana Crop Improvement Association, Indiana Pork Producers Association and is the director of the Indiana Wine and Grape Council. He is the administrative advisor for several multi-state research committees.

Marshall is a member of many academic honoraries, including Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Delta, Epsilon Sigma Phi and Ceres. He is a past president of the Purdue University Chapter of Sigma Xi. He also is a member of several professional organizations, including the American Agricultural Economics Association, the International Association of Agricultural Economists, the American Economics Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has received numerous awards.

Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Marshall has had extensive international professional experience in several nations including Argentina, Cuba, China, Russia, Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico, the Netherlands, Hungary, Spain and Portugal. He lived in South America for six years and during his Purdue University career has worked in these countries with government, university and private-sector organizations as an agricultural policy and development specialist.
Dr. John H. Sanders

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- Professor
- Ph.D. Economics, University of Minnesota
- M.S. Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky
- B.A. Government, Dartmouth College

Before coming to Purdue Sanders spent almost twelve years overseas doing his PhD fieldwork and working for the Ford Foundation in Brazil in a graduate education program (Fortaleza, Ceara), as the economist in the Bean Program in CIAT (Cali, Colombia) and representing Purdue in a university development program in Portugal (Evora).

Since 1983 he has been at Purdue teaching economic development and doing field research in Sub-Saharan Africa and Central America. From 1983-2016 he has made over 125 trips to Sub-Saharan Africa concentrating his activities in West Africa. Since 2003 along with Botorou Ousende he they have focused on a combined technology and marketing extension project. Besides the new technologies for sorghum and millet production they have been introducing a five point marketing plan and developing farmers' associations into functioning marketing coops. Since 2010 in Mali and Senegal this pilot project was moved into national scaling up. In 2014-16 they received almost a million dollar grant from the Gates Foundation to continue and extend this work in Mali and Burkina Faso. Presently Sanders is collaborating in a Purdue project to identify some key agricultural activities and support services for the frontier of Colombia.

Sanders specializes in the economics of technological change. In 1996 his work with his graduate students of 13 years in Africa was published by Johns Hopkins University Press, The Economics of Agricultural Technology in Semiarid, Sub-Saharan Africa (co-authored with Barry Shapiro and Sunder Ramaswamy). In 2016 his graduate students had finished 30 theses and were presently working in many development agencies including Akin Adesina, the actual President of the African Development Bank. As of 2016 he had over 100 professional publications (journals and book chapters). Sanders has received awards from Purdue, the University of Evora in Portugal, and the national agricultural research organization (IER) of Mali.