

Former Agricultural Economics Faculty

Craig Dobbins



Dr. Craig Dobbins joined the Purdue Agricultural Department in December of 1977 and has remained here ever since. He earned his Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Business, his Master's of Science in Agricultural Economics from Iowa State, and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University (1977). It was during this time, Dr. Dobbins would meet a lovely woman named Nancella who became his wife. They now have two children, Jarrett and Carrie. Jarrett and his family reside in California where he is a computer engineer for Apple. Carrie and her family are located in Indianapolis where she is a nurse practitioner.

While at Purdue, Dr. Dobbins has focused his efforts on farm management with an emphasis on applying computer information systems to farming decisions related to crop economics, farm financial decisions, and farmland economics. Over the years, he has taught more than seven different courses, including: AGEC 410 farm management; AGEC 352 Quantitative methods for Firm Decision Making; AGEC 42500 – Estate Planning and Property Transfer; and AGEC 45600 – Federal Income Tax Law. In addition to teaching, Dobbins also took time to advise the Farm Management Club, supervise honor program theses, coordinate the computer decision making Top Farmer workshop, and conduct and publish the findings of the Purdue Farmland Survey, in addition to other activities.

Dr. Dobbins has received several top accolades during his time at Purdue University. A few of his awards include: Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialist Association Career Award (2013), David C. Pfenfender Outstanding Undergraduate Counselor, College of Agriculture (2012), Omicron Delta Kappa, Purdue University Best Counselor Award (2006/2007), College of Agriculture Team Award for AICC/New Ventures Team (2007). He also received the Purdue University, Seeds of Excellence (2004), Kellogg Fellow in Leadership Development at the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy (1991), and was Inducted into the National Honorary Extension Fraternity-Epsilon Sigma Phi (1988). Dr. Dobbins also won a number of group awards, American Agricultural Economics Association Distinguished Extension Program - Group Award, Food System 21: Gearing Up for the New Millennium (1999), American Agricultural Economics Association Distinguished Extension Program - Group Award, Indiana Agriculture 2000: A Strategic Perspective (1993). Along with these awards, Dobbins has many outstanding publications, including but not limited to: *Measuring and Analyzing Farm Financial Performance*, Purdue Extension Publication; *Developing Vision and Mission Statements*, Purdue Extension Publication; *Principles for Structuring Small Businesses and Farms*,; and "Indiana Farmland Values and Cash Rent Jump Upward," *Purdue Agricultural Economics Report*.

The Purdue family has been extremely fortunate to have Dr. Craig Dobbins on staff. His time counseling and teaching in the classroom, has made an everlasting impact on many students. He was able to help students and others improve their critical thinking, decision making, and problem-solving skills as well as provide helpful information and guidance to those looking to make informed decisions. Dr. Dobbins'

legacy will last generations after his retirement from Purdue. We are all ever grateful and thankful for the opportunity to have him as a co-worker, advisor, and professor.