Purdue University Agricultural Economics Faculty Speakers

Dr. Jayson Lusk

- Department Head/Distinguished Professor
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- 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.

Lusk is a food and agricultural economist who studies what we eat and why we eat it. Since 2000, he 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 as president of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association and named a fellow of the AAEA in 2015.

Lusk has co-authored books on experimental auctions and agricultural marketing and price analysis. His latest published book is *Unnaturally Delicious: How Science and Technology are Serving up Super Foods to Save the World*.

Dr. Holly Wang

- Professor
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- B.S. Tsinghua University, China
- Ph.D. Michigan State

Dr. Holly Wang is a Professor at the Department of Agricultural Economics, and she was previously an Assistant and Associate Professor at 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, and marketing; Master level courses in econometrics and agribusiness marketing; as well as undergraduate courses in corporative finance and Chinese economy. She developed and is the Director for the Purdue-China Agribusiness Training Programs. Dr. Wang is a known scholar in agricultural economic issues and travels to China frequently. Dr. Wang served as past President of Chinese Economists Society (www.china-ces.org), a US based organization focusing on the research of Chinese economic issues, and was founding Chair for China Section of Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (http://www.aaea.org/membership/sections/china/) in 2010 and AAEA Executive Board Director, 2014-2017. She is also a Co-Editor for *Food Policy* and *China Agricultural Economic Review*. 
Dr. Brady Brewer

- Asstant Professor
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- 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 joined the department in July 2018. He earned his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University in 2015 and was an assistant professor of agribusiness at the University of Georgia before coming to Purdue.

His research focuses on agricultural finance and production topics that include farm profitability, credit availability, production efficiencies, credit choice of farmers, and farmland values.

Dr. Brewer’s extension programming focuses on educating agricultural lenders on credit analysis and farm income trends.

Dr. Russell Hillberry

- Professor
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- 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 was 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. Currently, 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. Meilin Ma

- Assistant Professor
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- M.S. University of California, Davis
- Ph.D. University of California, Davis
Dr. Meilin Ma joined the Purdue AgEcon faculty in August 2018 after obtaining her Ph.D. degree at UC Davis. Her area of expertise is Agricultural Industrial Organization.

At Purdue, Dr. Ma focuses on the economics of supply chains, while continuing the research on issues in the interface between agricultural and development economics. So far, the context of her research has been the United States and China. She sees exciting research topics to pursue regarding supply chain innovation and changing food consumption patterns in both countries.

**Dr. Mindy Mallory**

- Associate Professor, Clearing Corporation Charitable Foundation Endowed Chair of Food & Agricultural Marketing
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- Ph.D. Economics, Iowa State University

Dr. Mallory joined the department in 2019. Dr. Mallory’s research focuses on commodity markets and marketing issues, especially related to commodity futures and options markets. Topics of special interest include forecasting, liquidity costs, and price discovery. Additionally Dr. Mallory has applied portfolio theory from finance to novel domains to help decision-makers make better choices under uncertainty.

**Dr. Farzad Taheripour**

- Research Professor
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- Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign (UIUC)

Dr. Farzad Taheripour joined the department in 2012.

Dr. Taheripour is also an associate of the Center for Global Trade Analysis (GTAP) and collaborates with the World Bank and several other institutions in a wide-range of research projects. His research activities are primarily in the area of energy, agriculture, natural resource (including land and water), macro and micro economic modeling and econometrics. His current research focuses on developing macro and micro economic models to analyze and quantify economic and environmental consequences of climate change and energy policies and their interactions. His research activities in these areas have been recognized nationally and internationally.
Dr. Nicole J. Onlyk Widmar

- Associate Head/Professor
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- Ph.D. Michigan State University

Dr. Widmar's teaching, research and Extension activities focus on farm business management and production economics. She strives to conduct applied research that informs decision making on commercial agricultural operations. She is interested in applied work that links farm management with the biological components of on-farm production. Her work incorporates both the economic outcomes of a decision and the uncertainties or efficiencies that arise from the biological process underlying the production process. She had a B.S. degree in Animal science from Cornell University.

Outside Agricultural Economics Faculty Speakers

Dr. James MacDonald, University of Maryland

- Research Professor
- Phone number: 301-405-1293
- Email: jmacdon2@umd.edu
- Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
- B.S. in Economics, Siena College
- Ph.D. in Economics, State University of New York at Buffalo

Dr. James MacDonald is Research Professor at the University of Maryland. Prior to joining the University 2020, he was a senior economist and branch chief at the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and also served on the faculties of Hamilton College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has published widely on the topics of consolidation in agriculture, technology adoption in agriculture, and competition in the US food system, and has extensive experience in the design and execution of farm surveys. He is a Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, and a three-time winner of the Secretary’s Abraham Lincoln Honor Award at the US Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Bruce A. McCarl, Texas A&M University
Dr. Bruce A. McCarl is University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. He held prior appointments at Oregon State and Purdue University.

He is an agricultural economist who studies climate change, water, and agricultural/environmental policy as well as applications of optimization theory. He has published 300 journal articles in peer reviewed journals, 11 books, 69 book chapters, and 70 government or agency reports gaining over 29,000 citations. He has presented over 375 invited papers. He has advised 100 PhD and Post-Doctoral Students. He has served in editorial positions for five academic journals including the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Climatic Change*, *Water Resources Research* and *Choices*. He was named a fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association in 2005 plus is a fellow of the Western Association and a Lifetime Awardee of the Southern Association. He was a participant in the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

McCarl has participated in three assessment reports of the UN sponsored International Panel on Climate Change as well as a National Academy Report on Limiting Climate Change and EPA reports on climate change effects and greenhouse gas mitigation.

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**Dr. Qiujie Angie Zheng, University of Maine**

- Associate Professor
- E-mail: qiujie.zheng@maine.edu
- Maine School of Business
- B.A. Nankai University
- M.A. Nankai University
- M.S. Washington State University
- Ph.D. Washington State University

Dr. Qiujie “Angie” Zheng is an Associate Professor of Business Analytics at the University of Maine. She has been conducting research on consumer choice and preference, agribusiness, food and seafood marketing, agricultural production and supply, risks, and experimental economics. Her research has covered topics such as crop yield distribution and insurance, biofuel feedstock supply, market structure and power, consumer preference for food attributes, consumer willingness to pay for local foods, information effect on consumer food choice, etc. She has rich experience in designing surveys and experiments to understand consumer perceptions and attitudes and elicit their preference and valuation for food products.

Before joining the University of Maine, Dr. Zheng had worked as an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Alaska Anchorage and Sr. Risk Analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Co. She obtained her PhD degree in economics and MS degree in Statistics from the Washington State University.