

# Keeping Track

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Vol. XIV No. 1

Fall 2007

## Joan Fulton Directs Project to Enhance African Economy



Joan Fulton

Some of the world's poorest people in Africa could increase their supply of a food staple and improve their region's economic standing thanks

to a Purdue University research and extension education effort funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The foundation awarded \$11.4 million to Purdue Agriculture to aid people in 10 African nations. Agricultural economics professor Dr. Joan Fulton is the director of the project titled, "Encouraging Regional Trade with Hermetic Storage for Cowpeas in West and Central Africa".

With a one-time cost estimated at a little more than \$3 per household, farmers in West and Central Africa will learn how better to protect cowpeas, an important food and cash crop, and increase their household income on average about \$150 per year. The five-year project will cover the countries of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo.

"Because of storage problems, farmers are often forced to sell their cowpeas at harvest, when prices are at their lowest levels," said Dr. Fulton. "If we teach them how to store the cowpeas properly, they can take advantage of higher prices later in the year."

To read the entire article:  
<http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070606FultonGates.html> ❖

## Honorary Doctorate



William Boehm

Dr. William T. Boehm received an Honorary Doctorate of Agriculture at commencement on May 12, 2007. Dr. Boehm earned his masters and doctorate in agricultural economics from Purdue in '72 and '74 respectively. Dr. Boehm is President of the Kroger Manufacturing Co. and Senior Vice President of the Kroger Co. Kroger is the largest retail food company in the United States, ranked 21st in the 2006 Fortune 500 list with \$60.5 billion in revenues. Dr. Boehm is also a Distinguished Agricultural Alumnus.

Throughout his career, Dr. Boehm has applied his considerable talents and energies to the betterment of his employer, colleagues, industry, community, and youth organizations. He has been active in Alpha Gamma Rho and FFA for many years. His combination of sharp intellect, leadership ability, willingness to take the long view by investing in the development of the next generation, and his concern for those in need have led him to achieve great things for the industry he serves and the community and youth organizations he supports. He has distinguished himself through professional, volunteer, and community works that have clearly improved the industry in which he works, as well as the community and youth organizations he supports.

<http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/history/daa/Boehm.asp> ❖

## Jill Steiner Appointed as Purdue Student Trustee

Gov. Mitch Daniels has appointed Jill Steiner to the Purdue Board of Trustees. Jill, a junior Agricultural Economics major



Jill Steiner

who grew up on a family farm in Adams County, is active in Purdue's College of Agriculture, including serving as the Agriculture Council secretary. Last summer, she was the manager of the Indiana FFA State Fair Country Market, and an intern for the Indiana FFA Foundation, helping develop curriculum for leadership conferences. She's also involved in the Purdue Foundation Student Board, and was a member of the 2005-06 Patty and Martin Jischke Leadership Class. "Jill will complement the already strong agriculture perspective provided by John Hardin and JoAnn Brouillette and bring a perspective for the next generation of Hoosier farmers that is so essential in our efforts to make agriculture an integral part of our economic comeback," said Daniels. ❖

## Department of Agricultural Economics Quick Reference

Sarahelen "Sally" Thompson Ph.D.  
Department Head and Professor  
765-494-4191  
sallyt@purdue.edu

Will Masters  
Assoc. Department Head and Professor  
765-494-4235  
wmasters@purdue.edu

**Graduate Program**  
Ken Foster, Ph.D.  
Associate Department Head  
and Professor  
765-494-1116  
kfoster@purdue.edu

Lou Ann Baugh  
Graduate Coordinator  
765-494-4196  
baughl@purdue.edu

**Undergraduate Program**  
Frank Dooley, Ph.D.  
Teaching Coordinator and Professor  
765-494-4244  
dooleyf@purdue.edu

LeeAnn Williams  
Academic Advisor and  
FIMM Coordinator  
765-494-0262  
leewill@purdue.edu

**Center for Food and  
Agricultural Business, and  
Purdue-Kelley MS-MBA in Food and  
Agribusiness Management**  
Jay Akridge, Ph.D.  
Director and Professor  
765-494-4327  
akridge@purdue.edu

**Center for Rural  
Development**  
Kevin McNamara, Ph.D.  
Director and Professor  
765-494-4236  
mcnamara@purdue.edu

**Global Trade Analysis**  
Thomas Hertel, Ph.D.  
Director and Professor  
765-494-4199  
hertel@purdue.edu

**Site Specific Management Center**  
Bruce Erickson, Ph.D.  
Team Co-Leader  
765-494-9557  
berickso@purdue.edu

**Newsletter Managing Editor**  
Debby Weber

## Agricultural Economics Poised to Address Future Challenges



Sally Thompson

It is hard for me to believe that it has been over five years since I joined Purdue as Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. During this period the department has flourished. We have hired 11 new faculty members in the last five years, and are searching for two more now. Following our department and university strategic plans, we have hired several new faculty members in the areas of spatial economics, health economics, agricultural policy, and farm and rural household economics. The department has also made important strides in key initiative areas including agricultural policy, farm economics, biofuel economics, and rural and small business development in Indiana. We have maintained strengths in traditional areas of agribusiness management, farm management, agricultural marketing, finance, and production, as well as in international trade and development. Our undergraduate program has grown to more than 420 undergraduate majors and 100 minors—the highest in anyone's memory. Our graduate program is also thriving, attracting top-quality students from all corners of the United States and around the world.

We are well recognized by our peers and those we serve for our achievements. Members of our faculty have won numerous professional awards. We are top-ranked in the fields of agribusiness management, international trade, farm management, finance, and

production economics (Perry, 2004). We now have two Purdue Distinguished Professors (Tom Hertel and Mike Boehlje) and two Named Professors (Jay Akridge and Matt Holt). Our students are achieving success in national and international competitions both at the undergraduate and graduate level. More importantly, they're finding great jobs (or great jobs are finding them) in the private sector, government, non-governmental organizations, and academia. We are working hard and having measurable impact serving various constituencies in the state and throughout the world through the efforts of our New Ventures Team, Center for Food and Agricultural Business, Center for Global Trade Analysis, annual Outlook program, Top Farmer Crop Workshop, and biofuels policy analysis work, among other programs.

I don't have a crystal ball and can't predict much about the future with great accuracy. But, I am confident in the prediction that Agricultural Economics at Purdue will continue to meet the challenges the future presents to us. Our current expertise spans the fields of farm management, food and agribusiness management, energy economics, health economics, international trade and development, rural and small business development, public finance, and environmental economics. We're ready for the future and will continue to evolve to meet the education and research needs of those we serve both on campus and beyond the walls of Purdue.

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

### **Trustees Honor Michael Boehlje as Distinguished Professor**



Michael Boehlje

Dr. Michael Boehlje was named the Distinguished Professor of Agricultural Economics by the Purdue University Board of Trustees. Designated professorships honor individuals whose academic achievements have

been internationally recognized or who have made a unique contribution to the university through scholarship, research, teaching, or leadership functions. Purdue now has 130 designated professors.

Dr. Boehlje's scholarship focuses on integrating concepts of economics, finance, and strategy to solve problems of farm and agribusiness managers. He and his colleagues were among the first to utilize modern business management theories in solving farm management problems. Dr. Boehlje has played a leading role in the development of Purdue's agribusiness program and is one of the core faculty involved in the MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness program. His recent success in obtaining funding for the Purdue Agriculture and Commercialization Center also has sparked a new area of Extension activities at Purdue.

Dr. Boehlje (AgEcon M.S. '68, Ph.D. '71) has written more than 500 publications, including textbooks on farm management and agricultural finance. He also has served on a number of government agency task forces and commissions. He assisted individual farmers, lenders, and policy-makers during the farm financial crisis of the early 1980s. He is a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association and the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association.

### **Gerald Shively Receives 2006 Agricultural Research Award**

Dr. Gerald Shively is the 2006 recipient of the Agricultural Research Award, an annual award given to a Purdue College of Agriculture scientist who has completed

a doctoral degree within the past 15 years. The recipient is chosen based on research excellence and contributions made to agriculture, natural resources, and the quality of life of Indiana citizens.



Gerald Shively

Dr. Shively demonstrated that the introduction of an irrigation system in an area of the Philippines indirectly led to less deforestation by creating jobs for nearby residents who otherwise would have cleared forest. During the presentation of the award, Dr. Shively gave a talk titled, "On Fields and in Forests: An Economic Tale of Agricultural Development and Tropical Deforestation."

Dr. Shively has received research funding from the National Science Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and others. The honoree of the agricultural research award receives \$1,000, which is funded by the Charles Guthrie Patterson Memorial Endowment and the Matthew Morgan Hamilton Fund. In addition, \$5,000 is awarded to support the recipient's research.

To read more about Dr. Shively and his award: <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070405ShivelyAward.html>

### **Wallace Tyner Named Lugar Energy Patriot**

Dr. Wallace Tyner was named by Senator Richard Lugar as the June 2007 Lugar Energy Patriot for his economic analysis of energy policy, and featured on the Lugar Energy Initiative website <http://www.lugar.senate.gov/energy/index.html>. Each month, Senator Lugar profiles a student, professional, scholar, or member of the business community on the website who has demonstrated leadership and initiative in taking concrete action to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. In addition to the profile posted, individuals receive a certificate designating them Lugar Energy Patriots. Dr. Tyner received his certificate from the Senator in Washington, D.C.

"I've always been interested in energy issues. What can we do in a policy sense?

How do we create the right set of incentives to support the ethanol industry, but prevent exceptionally high corn prices?" said Dr. Tyner. "Markets alone won't make us more energy secure. When we have something markets can't do, we have to come up with policies to correct these failures. We have to have policies to make us energy secure. My job as an analyst is to do as good a job as I can of estimating what the consequences might be of any alternative that policy makers consider."

For Dr. Tyner, U.S. ethanol policy exemplifies "the law of unintended consequences" where ethanol is highly profitable due to the subsidy and price of oil. The result is increasing corn prices. In a paper presented at the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council Conference held at South Dakota State University, Brookings, in May 2007 (<http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/papers>), Dr. Tyner laid out policy alternatives that would address the twin goals of reducing petroleum consumption and cutting greenhouse gas emissions. Next, Dr. Tyner hopes to build models that account for price, market and technology uncertainties, and simulate what happens under each policy option. His goal is to evaluate how each policy vehicle stimulates investment and reduces cost for the government and the taxpayer.

At Purdue, Dr. Tyner is highly-respected among faculty and students. His passion for the economic analysis of energy policy is evident from his in-depth research that informs students, industry leaders, and legislators of the options that exist to address U.S. dependence on foreign oil.



Wallace Tyner & Richard Lugar



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

### **Award of Excellence to Marshall Martin**



Marshall Martin

Agricultural economist Dr. Marshall Martin is this year's winner of the Frederick L. Hovde Award of Excellence in Educational Service to Rural People of Indiana. The award is sponsored by the Indiana Farm Bureau and honors Purdue staff with a record of outstanding achievement and service to rural Indiana.

Dr. Martin, associate director of Purdue Agricultural Research Programs, was recognized for his efforts to help a variety of audiences better understand economic issues that affect agriculture through his work in Purdue Extension, as a faculty member, in his publications, and in the news media.

"Dr. Martin has dedicated his career to helping farmers improve their net farm income. He has a unique ability to make Purdue's vital research work available to the agricultural community in practical, real-world ways," said Don Villwock, president of Indiana Farm Bureau.

Dr. Martin's efforts to help explain biotechnology to people from many backgrounds include co-authoring the book *Agricultural Biotechnology: Issues and Choices*, co-producing the videotape *Agricultural Biotechnology: You Be the Judge*, and writing a set of award-winning Purdue Extension leaflets. He also was recognized for his leadership and work with colleagues in engaging the public. "His behind-the-scenes efforts to help others develop and deliver quality Extension programming have made the entire institution more responsive to current problems," said Dr. Sally Thompson, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics.

Dr. Martin has taught more than 2,500 students and served as the major professor for more than 40 graduate students. He currently serves on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Biotechnol-

ogy Task Force, and has previous service on other national committees and boards.

### **Homecoming 2007**



The Boilermakers will take on the Northwestern Wildcats for Homecoming on October 27, 2007. Kickoff is scheduled for noon. The College of Agriculture will host an Ag Alumni brunch buffet in the agriculture tent on the Memorial Mall across from the Ag Administration Building, from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. Once again the department will feature new and former faculty on football trading cards. This year's honorees include new faculty Scott Downey, Luc Valentin, and H. Holly Wang, and former faculty member David Petritz, who retired in June 2007 after serving as director of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service since 1999. Contact the Agricultural Alumni Association for brunch or game ticket information at (765) 494-8593. The deadline for ordering meal tickets is Monday, October 15, 2007. Game tickets will be available at a group rate of \$32 per ticket, and the deadline for ordering is Monday, September 10, 2007 5:00 p.m. EDT. For additional Homecoming information: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/agalumni/homecoming.html>

### **Purdue Ag Alumni Association Recognizes Downey and Ferris**



David Downey

Dr. W. David Downey, agricultural economics professor emeritus, and John N. Ferris, alumnus, were recognized with other agricultural leaders with the Purdue Agricultural Alumni Association's Certificate of

Distinction at the annual Fish Fry on February 3, 2007. The certificate honors those who have positively affected agriculture through professional accomplishments, involvement in agricultural activities, community work and other service activities. It is the highest honor bestowed by Purdue's Ag Alumni Association.

Dr. Downey, a charter member of Purdue's Book of Great Teachers, has taught more than 10,000 agri-marketing and sales students in his 40-year teaching career. He co-founded the Center for Food and Agricultural Business in 1986. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1961, a master's degree in 1963 and a doctorate in 1967, all from the Purdue College of Agriculture.



John N. Ferris

John N. Ferris, is professor emeritus of agricultural economics at Michigan State University. Ferris is a five-time recipient of the Premier Forecaster Award from the American Agricultural Economics Association. In 2005, Ferris joined a group of farmers to build the first major biodiesel plant in Michigan. He earned his bachelor's degree in agriculture from Purdue in 1951.

To read more about the honorees: <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070205LesterCertificates.html>

### **Bruce Scherr Named Distinguished Agricultural Alumnus**



Bruce Scherr

The Purdue University College of Agriculture honored eight Distinguished Agricultural Alumni, including Dr. Bruce Scherr, on March 2. Dr. Scherr is chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Informa Economics Inc. (formerly Sparks Companies, Inc.), an agricultural and commodity research, analysis and consulting firm. His company works with

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

more than 750 food and agribusiness firms and organizations located around the world. He earned his M.S. in 1972 and Ph.D. in 1974 in agricultural economics, both from Purdue.

“These eight people represent who we are and what we do so well in Purdue Agriculture,” said Randy Woodson, the Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture. “They are innovators and educators, leaders and motivators. We take great pride in our alumni and it’s always a thrill to honor those who have distinguished themselves in their careers.”

More information about the honorees may be found at <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070307WoodsonDAA.html>.

### Undergraduate Honors

The Department of Agricultural Economics has some outstanding undergraduate students that were honored by the department and the college for their academics, research, and service.

Recipients of scholarship awards were: Scott Harper (Medaryville, IN) and Jennifer Springer (Spencerville, IN), R. Dean Dyson Scholarships; Adam Kline (Hartford City, IN) and Jessica Quear (Cicero, IN), F. Van Smith Scholarships; Summer Fagg (Clay City, IN), Indiana Society of Agri-Bankers Award; Samuel Clark (Frankfort, IN), Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers; Zachary Day (Brownsburg, IN) and Matthew Erickson (Brookston, IN), Marshall Martin Public Policy Awards; Micah Haltom (Rosedale, IN), Michael McDaniel (Middletown, IN), and Sara Egan (Rensselaer, IN), Gerald and Joan Gentry Scholarships.

**Kole Ames** (Fillmore, IN) received the department’s Top Senior Scholar Award. He has served as an Agricultural Economics Envoy and was a member of the Agricultural Council. Kole graded for Agricultural Economics 220, “Marketing Farm Products” and completed a marketing internship with a winery in France.

**Anne Marie Diener** (Five Points, CA) was named the 2007 Outstanding Senior in the Department of Agricultural Economics. During her time at Purdue, Anne Marie has served as the President of Purdue Foundation Student Board, Chair of Mortar Board National Senior Honorary, Student Member of Purdue University Athletic Affairs Committee, Recruitment Counselor of Purdue Panhellenic Association, and Co-Chair of Old Masters. She interned for the Washington Leadership Conference, California Tree Fruit Agreement, and Food Product Association. Anne Marie was runner-up for the Outstanding Senior in the College, and received the campus-level Charles O. McCaughey Leadership Award as well as the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Scholarship Award. She also was the student responder at May Commencement.

**Jenna Smith** was recently honored at the American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon, by receiving second place in the undergraduate student paper competition for her paper, “Hedonic Pricing of Bulls”. Ken Foster was her major advisor. Jenna is continuing her studies in Agricultural Economics and will be a masters student this fall.

**Michael McDaniel** (Middletown, IN) was the 2007 Outstanding Junior in the Department of Agricultural Economics. McDaniel is participating in the Undergraduate Honors Project under the guidance of Dr. Maria Marshall studying “Impediments to High Growth/Small Business Start-ups in Rural Indiana.” He currently serves as Vice President of Order of Omega, Vice President of Academics at FarmHouse Fraternity and Vice President of Operations for Interfraternity Council. He has interned with Rolls-Royce Defense North America.

**Ryan Crane** (Exeter, ME) was named the 2007 Outstanding Sophomore in the Department of Agricultural Economics. He is involved with the College of Agriculture Dean’s Scholars program and is completing a research project with Dr. Craig Dobbins titled, “Management Strategies

in Farm Business.” Crane currently serves his fraternity Alpha Gamma Rho as Noble Ruler and the College of Agriculture as an Agriculture Ambassador. He was also named the 2007 Outstanding Sophomore in the College of Agriculture and is a member of the 400 Club with a 4.0 GPA.

**Samuel Clark** (Frankfort, IN) was the department’s 2007 Outstanding Freshman. Clark is involved with the College of Agriculture Dean’s Scholar’s program. He is also actively involved with Purdue Circle K and the Purdue Agribusiness Club.

Serving on the Agricultural Council this year were **Jay Alcorn, Sara Egan, Jill Steiner, Shawn Gearhart, and Clark Jordan**.

Of the 13 new Purdue Ag Ambassadors chosen for 2007, two will represent the department: **Bruce Cooley** (AgEcon and ABE) and **Tyler Cotterman** (AgEcon and AgComm). Ag Ambassadors are student volunteers who represent the College of Agriculture in a variety of ways, such as: leading campus tours for parents, visitors, and prospective students; giving presentations about careers, careers in agriculture, and college life; representing the College of Agriculture at information and career fairs; and hosting alumni and dignitaries at college and University events.

### Snyder Lecture and Awards

The 33rd Annual James C. Snyder Memorial Lecture and awards celebration took place April 12, 2007.

The lecture was delivered by Dr.

Jason Shogren, and was titled, “A Rule of One: From Experimental to Paleoeconomics and Back.” Dr. Shogren is the Stroock Professor of Natural Resource Conservation and Management and a professor of economics in the Department of Economics and Finance at the University of Wyoming. His research focuses on the behavioral underpinnings



Jason Shogren

(continued on pg 6)

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

of public policy, especially for environmental and natural resources.

### Graduate Poster Competition Winners

This year's poster winners are:

**1st: Jane Howell and Dr. Larry**



Jane Howell

**DeBoer**, "How the spatial distribution of students affects school transportation costs in Indiana." (\$200)

**2nd: Ana Rios and Dr. George Patrick**, "Increasing Income while Reducing Risk." (\$150)

**3rd: Kristina Kreutzer and Dr. Joe Balagtas**, "Commodity Policies and Product Differentiation: The California Milk Marketing Order and the Organic Dairy Sector." (\$100)

### Outstanding M.S. Thesis and Ph.D. Dissertation

This year's thesis award winners are:

**Mesbah Motamed**

received the Outstanding Masters Thesis award for his thesis, "Towards a Better Understanding of Trade and Poverty: The Case of White Maize in Mexico." His major professor was Dr. Wallace Tyner. Mesbah is currently studying for a Ph.D. in agricultural economics at Purdue.



Mesbah Motamed

**Yuliya Bolotova** received the Outstanding Ph.D. dissertation award for her dissertation, "Three Essays in the Effectiveness of Overt Collusion: Cartel Overcharges, Cartel Stability and Cartel Success". Her major professor was Dr. John Connor. Yuliya is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the University of Idaho.

### Annual Apex Awards

Four agricultural economics alumni were recognized for their strong connections to the Department and contributions made within their fields.

**Gregory Beck** – Mr. Gregory Beck earned his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology at Purdue in 1982, and his M.S. in Agricultural Finance at Purdue in 1984. After graduating, Beck's career began at Consolidated Grain and Barge (CGB). Throughout his career Beck co-chaired different committees within CGB focusing on grain origination and new contract concepts for the organization's customers. These committees formed the foundation for much of the way CGB originates grain from its customers today.

In July 2002 he assumed the role of Vice President of the Grain Division. As Vice President, Beck is responsible for all grain operations which include marketing and merchandising of all grains, specialty grains, facility and plant operations, grain origination and customer relationship management, facility acquisitions, as well as overall financial performance of that division. Beck and his family reside in Covington, Louisiana.

**George Green** – Following graduation from Indiana State University, Mr. George Green began his agribusiness career as a feed salesman. In 1982 he assumed his first management role as General Manager of the Kosciusko County Farm Bureau Co-op. In 1984 he became Manager of Carroll County Farm Bureau Co-op, which would later become part of Excel Co-op. He was appointed General Manager of Excel Co-op at the time of the merger in 1996. His education has continued while serving as Excel Co-op's General Manager. In December 2004 he received an MBA in Food and Agribusiness from the Department of Agricultural Economics and Krannert School of Management at Purdue University.

To strengthen the cooperative system that serves Excel Co-op, Green is active in various cooperative organizations. He currently serves on the Land O' Lakes



Gregory Beck, George Green, Kimseyinga Savadogo, Jeffery Hale

National Leadership Council. He is President of the Board of Directors for the Mid America Cooperative Council. Green and his wife Debby have three adult sons and live in a 140-year-old recently restored home outside of Monticello. Green's hobbies include antique cars and tractors. He also is a licensed private pilot and flies his own airplane.

**Jeffrey L. Hale** - A native of Valparaiso, Indiana, Mr. Jeffrey L. Hale earned a 1995 B.S. in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University. As an undergraduate student at Purdue, Hale worked as a member of a multi-disciplinary team tasked to develop a comprehensive set of informational materials designed to assist smaller-scale midwestern pork farms compete with larger-scale enterprises. He was responsible for analyzing primary research, co-authoring 10 out of 14 chapters in the book *Positioning Your Pork Operation for the 21st Century*, presenting results at statewide seminars, and producing a video lecture series.

Hale's early career in banking began with CoBank, ACB in Denver, Colorado, and First Chicago NBD (now Chase). He has worked in several capacities for several large financial institutions throughout his career, including Fifth Third Bank, The Provident Bank (now National City Bank), KeyBank, and Symphony Bank, where he was President and CEO. During his tenure at Symphony he was responsible for growing the bank from \$22 million to \$45 million in assets, and more than doubling its revenue.

Hale currently resides in Brownsburg with his family. He is very active in the community, serving as a member of the Finance Advisory Council for the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Zoobilation Restaurant



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

Committee, Indy Partnership board, and TechPoint. In addition to his professional accomplishments, he is a Marine Corps combat veteran of the first Gulf War.

**Kimseyinga Savadogo** - After earning a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics in 1986 at Purdue, Dr. Kimseyinga Savadogo joined the School of Economics at the Université de Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso as an assistant professor. In November 1995 he received the title of Professor. He has served in the positions of Vice-Dean and Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management, Head of the graduate department, and Director of the Research Center at the University of Ouagadougou.

Dr. Savadogo has taught courses both at the undergraduate and graduate levels and has served as chairperson or member of several graduate thesis committees at the University of Ouagadougou and CIREs (Centre Ivoirien de Recherche Economique et Sociale) in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire).

Dr. Savadogo's research interests are centered in the areas of development and poverty, agricultural productivity and growth, technology adoption, rural institutions and development, food security, food demand, and consumer preferences. Research results have been published in various food and agricultural publications and in conference proceedings. Dr. Savadogo is also currently co-editor of the *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* (AfJARE), Associate Editor of *Agricultural Economics* (The Journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists) and Editorial advisor of *Natural Resources Forum* (issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs).

More information on Apex Award winners past and present may be found at: <http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/alumni/>.

### **Jay T. Akridge Appointed Interim Vice Provost for Engagement**

Dr. Jay T. Akridge was recently named as the university's interim vice provost for engagement. Jay will be serving in this capacity while Dr. Victor Lechtenberg serves as interim provost for the university. Akridge, the James and Lois Ackerman Professor of Agricultural Economics and director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business, began his duties on August 1, 2007. As interim vice provost for engagement, Akridge will lead Purdue's efforts to use university resources to address economic development and other issues affecting the state's prosperity and quality of life. He will work directly with Indiana's leaders, the business community and citizens to find ways for Purdue to advance that mission. To read more: <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007b/070727LechtenbergAkridge.html>



Jay T. Akridge



James "Jess"  
Lowenberg-DeBoer

### **New Head of International Programs in Agriculture**

Dr. James "Jess" Lowenberg-DeBoer has been named associate dean and director of International Programs in Agriculture (IPIA) in the College of Agriculture, where he served as interim head for the last two years. A professor of agricultural economics, Dr. Lowenberg-DeBoer has 21 years of involvement in research, teaching and extension around the world. "Dr. Lowenberg-DeBoer has a wealth of experience and a passion for international development," said Randy Woodson, Purdue's Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture.

IPIA facilitates international research and Extension, in addition to efforts that promote cultural awareness and collabora-

tions that benefit students, faculty, and the citizens of Indiana. Among IPIA's strengths is a study abroad program that is one of the largest on campus and one of the best of all agriculture schools in the nation, said Woodson. More than 23 percent of Purdue Agriculture undergraduates study overseas.

Dr. Lowenberg-DeBoer plans to expand efforts that increase trade opportunities for Indiana businesses. Among those efforts is a project that teamed Purdue graduate students with Indiana agribusinesses for the purpose of learning how these companies might better market their products in Latin America, and the development of four Latino learning centers across Indiana. Also planned are students doing research abroad, and new opportunities for faculty to conduct agriculture research in developing countries in Africa and Central Asia.

Dr. Lowenberg-DeBoer conducts research on the economics of agricultural technology and pioneered the use of spatial regression in analyzing crop data. Since 1997 he has facilitated multidisciplinary research teams in West Africa for the USAID Bean/Cowpea Collaborative Research Support Program. International Programs in Agriculture website: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/ipia/>

### **State Utility Forecasting Group Names Preckel as Faculty Director**

Dr. Paul Preckel has been named faculty director for the State Utility Forecasting Group, a research and technical analysis center based at Purdue. The center is affiliated with the School of Industrial Engineering, the Department of Agricultural Economics, and the Energy Center in Discovery Park.

The State Utility Forecasting Group is a team of professionals supported by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. The group's primary purpose is to provide a biennial forecast report of the state's



Paul Preckel

(continued on pg 8)

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

anticipated electricity use, prices, and resource needs.

“Professor Preckel has the perfect background needed to head an organization that helps leaders in our state determine our future energy needs,” said Dr. Jay Gore, interim director of the Energy Center, Vincent P. Reilly Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and an associate dean in the College of Engineering. Projects include: researching renewable energy sources, investigating how events such as prolonged high natural gas prices affect the use of electricity and natural gas, and examining the impact of regional factors on Indiana’s energy markets.

Since joining Purdue in 1983, Dr. Preckel’s research has focused on the mathematical modeling of economic systems, gaining support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Monsanto Corp., U.S. Agency for International Development, Elanco Corp., and the International Livestock Research Institute. He is currently co-editor of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*. He has served as a consultant to various companies. To read more about the State Utility Forecasting Group, visit <http://discoverypark.purdue.edu/wps/portal/Energy/SUFG>

### **NAMA Team Recognized as Top Chapter**



Christine Wilson

The Purdue National Agri-Marketing Team (NAMA), advised by associate professor Dr. Christine Wilson, competed in Dallas, Texas at the Student Marketing Competition. The

team presented their product, BuffoLean, 100% all-natural ground buffalo meat. The team advanced to the semi-finals. Students on the team were Matt Blasdel, Micah Haltom, Jared Herschberger, Brad Nicholson, Melissa Petrone, Grant Reiff, Levi Riggs, and Adam Tooman. Graduate student Carl Norden assisted in advising the team this year.



Men: Jared Herschberger, Adam Tooman, Brad Nicholson, Matt Blasdel, Levi Riggs, Grant Reiff  
Women: Melissa Petrone, Micah Haltom.

Micah Haltom, an officer in the Agribusiness/NAMA club, received the R.C. Ferguson/Successful Farming Scholarship. This \$4,000 scholarship is the largest and most prestigious scholarship awarded by NAMA. Based on the annual chapter report required to be eligible to compete in the marketing competition, the Purdue NAMA chapter was recognized as one of the top 10 student chapters. Micah Haltom took the lead on preparing this report, and was assisted by the other Agribusiness/NAMA club officers Summer Fagg, Matt Blasdel, Megan Paul, Tyler Macik and Megan Sheely.

### **ICEE Sponsored Team Wins National Economics Competition**

An Indiana Council for Economic Education (ICEE) teacher advocate and annual Econ Camp participant, Michelle Foutz, has taken her Carmel High School Economics Challenge Team to the state, regional, and national championships, winning them all. The Carmel team first won the Indiana Economics Challenge on April 10, 2007, and the Chicago Midwest regional on April 23. In the Advanced Placement category of the national championship held in New York City, students participated in two rounds of competition involving answering multiple choice questions that covered microeconomics, macroeconomics, international trade and current events. “The performance of this team was absolutely outstanding,” said Foutz, who teaches economics at the high school and sponsors the team. “These young men beat the private school from Hawaii that had won the national championship the

last two years.” Several of the Department of Agricultural Economics faculty have contributed to this success by presenting sessions at the annual Camp Tecumseh Econ Camp sponsored by the Department. Visit the ICEE website, <http://www.econed-in.org> for further information.

### **2007 Violet Haas Award to Sarahelen Thompson**

Dr. Sarahelen Thompson, professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, received the Violet Haas Award on April 26, 2007. Established in 1990, the award recognizes individuals, programs, or departments at Purdue that have effectively facilitated the advancement of women in hiring, promotion, education and salary, or have generally enhanced a positive professional climate for women at the university. <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070411ClarkHaas.html>

### **William Masters and Allan Gray Receive Gamma Sigma Delta Awards of Merit**

Two members of the Agricultural Economics faculty have earned Gamma Sigma Delta Awards of Merit. These awards are granted to outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to agriculture, consumer and family sciences, and veterinary medicine. Awards can recognize contributions in research, teaching, Extension/outreach, service, or administration. Dr. William Masters was recognized for his research in the measurement, analysis and design of agricultural policy interventions. Dr. Allan Gray was recognized for his outstanding Extension education programs in agricultural policy, strategic management, and finance.



William Masters



Allan Gray



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

### **Taylor and Akridge Serve as 2007 Honorary Iron Key Advisors**



Jay Akridge



Robert Taylor

Dr. Jay Akridge and Dr. Robert Taylor were Iron Key Advisors for the Class of 2007. The Iron Key consists of students, honoraries, and advisors who remain anonymous during the year they serve the Order completing a project that benefits the University. The Class of 2007 created a booklet for the incoming freshman class to make them feel welcome at Purdue. They also added the top 15 tips for success, called "The Freshman Fifteen". These

cover a wide range of topics and can be seen on the corresponding website, [www.boilermini.com](http://www.boilermini.com), along with other useful Purdue information. Both the student project and the identities of those in the Order are revealed at the conclusion of the term. Iron Key is considered to be the highest honor bestowed upon a student at Purdue University. This experience allows its members to serve without recognition, the most humbling and rewarding service of all.

### **Emeritus Professor Honored at Symposium**

On May 2-3, 2007, the University of Minnesota regents hosted a symposium to honor the lifetime contributions of Regents Professor Emeritus,



G. Edward Schuh

Dr. G. Edward Schuh (Purdue Doctor of Agriculture, Honoris Causis, 1992). Recently retired, Dr. Schuh spent most of his professional career addressing the problems of global agriculture. He pioneered

consideration of the macroeconomics of agriculture. The symposium brought together scholars and policy experts—all former students or close colleagues of Dr. Schuh's—and the papers are to be collected and published in the coming year. [http://www.hhh.umn.edu/schuh\\_symposium/index.html](http://www.hhh.umn.edu/schuh_symposium/index.html)

### **David C. Petritz Retires as Director of Extension**

After nearly 35 years of service to Purdue University, Dr. David C. Petritz retired in June 2007. Dr. Petritz is a native of Rockford, Illinois, where his family still retains a farm. He earned his bachelor, masters, and doctoral degrees in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois.



David Petritz  
Director of Extension from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Petritz joined the Department of Agricultural Economics as an assistant professor in 1972. He worked in the areas of economics of beef, sheep, forage production and marketing, and in agricultural market analysis and outlook. In 1982, he became the assistant head for Extension education in agricultural economics. He was named the assistant director of Purdue Extension, and the agricultural and natural resources program leader in 1989, serving in that post until he became director of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service in 1999. Dr. Petritz was also the associate vice-provost of engagement for the university.

"Purdue has one of the leading Extension organizations in the nation due in large part to the quality of his leadership," said Randy Woodson, Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture. "There is no one who cares more deeply about the university, Purdue agriculture and Purdue Extension than Dave."

Among his career accomplishments, Petritz worked on several programs to help farm families deal with difficult financial times, including the FARM project which focused on financial decision-making tools

for farmers. He also coordinated the 1988 drought response effort that included a toll-free hotline and extensive news media coverage. While director, Petritz was assigned the role of helping the entire university become more engaged in trying to find solutions to the problems facing the state.

"Dave often says that it is the people that make Purdue Extension special. His commitment to our people has been outstanding and he will be missed," said Woodson.

### **Economic Development Experts Win Purdue Agriculture Team Award**

The New Ventures team, an interdisciplinary group dedicated to aiding in the launch and expansion of businesses for Indiana's economic development, received the 2007 Purdue University Agriculture Team Award.

Founded in 2002, the New Ventures Team, composed of Purdue Cooperative Extension Service educators and university faculty, helps people evaluate, develop and expand all types of commercial enterprises. The team obtained a \$1 million USDA-Rural Development Program to form the Agricultural Innovation and Commercialization Center (AICC) in 2003.

"We started the New Ventures Team to respond to community needs based on questions received in county Extension offices and here on campus," said Joan Fulton, Purdue agricultural economics



(continued on pg 10)

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

professor and co-chair of the team. “The AICC philosophy is to provide tools so people can evaluate and analyze business ideas themselves. It’s in the spirit of helping people help themselves.” The other co-chairs named in the award are Jerry Nelson, Purdue New Ventures educator, and Dr. Michael Boehlje, professor of agricultural economics.

Purdue New Ventures/AICC team provides assistance through one-on-one consultations, publications, workshops, research, and INventure, an online tool for developing a business plan. The team has presented more than 70 workshops to more than 1,800 people since the group’s inception. The topics include grant writ-

ing, new business evaluation, organics, agritourism, starting a food business and targeted sales, and marketing.

“The Purdue AICC/New Ventures team exemplifies a group of diverse Extension professionals joining together to address an important societal need to a significant target audience,” said Dr. Sally Thompson, head of Purdue’s Department of Agricultural Economics. “Their efforts have stimulated and supported entrepreneurial activity in the state and the nation.” To learn more about the New Ventures Team: <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2007a/070430FultonAgteam.html>

### **Christopher Hurt, Pork Visionary**

In the May 2007 edition of *National Hog Farmer*, Dr. Christopher Hurt is featured as a “Master of the Pork Industry.” Chosen masters are leaders in their fields and widely respected for their talent. Hurt is one of a handpicked group of pork industry visionaries, who share personal stories, business philosophies, trials and inspirations that have carried them forward in their pursuit of excellence.

[http://nationalhogfarmer.com/mag/farming\\_masters\\_2/index7.html](http://nationalhogfarmer.com/mag/farming_masters_2/index7.html)



Christopher Hurt

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF



Bruce Erickson

**Dr. Bruce Erickson** has accepted a new position as the Director of Cropping Systems Management. He brings a varied background that includes agroeconomic sales support, competency-based

education and assessment, marketing and educational consulting with agribusinesses and government agencies, and research related to precision agriculture. In this new role, Erickson will work with producers, agribusinesses, farm organizations, and with faculty/extension specialists across campus to provide leadership for the Top Farmer Crop Workshop and the Site-Specific Management Center, conduct applied research related to farm management, and deliver programs to address specific issues related to crop production. He earned his B.S. in Agronomy and his M.S. in Crop Production and Physiology from Iowa State University, and his Ph.D. in Agronomy from Purdue University. Bruce and his wife Kathleen live outside Lafayette with their children Emily, Mary Grace, and Dane.



Scott Downey

**Dr. W. Scott Downey** has been named assistant professor of selling and sales management, beginning in the fall of 2007, after completing his doctorate at Purdue University.

This is a joint appointment with the Department of Consumer Sciences and Retailing in the College of Consumer and Family Sciences at Purdue University. Dr. Downey’s dissertation research examined the relational sales preferences of rural-politican buyers. Other research interests include key account management and factors affecting the attitudes of large dairy owners. He has taught undergraduate courses in professional selling, marketing, strategy and finance, and has been a frequent contributor to agribusiness trade publications. Dr. Downey will retain his position as associate director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business, where he has directed and instructed programs over the last seven years. Prior to joining the University in 2000, Dr. Downey spent 15 years in the financial services industry. He received his B.S. from Purdue University

in 1985, and his MBA from Cal Poly in 1991. He resides in West Lafayette with his wife, Laura, and their two daughters, Erica and Micayla.

### **Dr. Luc Valentin**

joined the department in June 2007. He recently completed his Ph.D. in agricultural economics at Kansas State University, where he also earned his Master’s degree. Dr. Valentin completed a Master’s in Agriculture from L’Ecole Supérieure d’Agriculture in Toulouse, France. He spent two years as a layer complex manager at CalMaine Foods of Kansas, LLC before joining the Kansas Farm Management Association. There he worked with more than 100 farms in northwestern Kansas assisting producers on various management and tax-related issues, as well as developing programs to improve data analysis efficacy. Dr. Valentin’s research experience has covered numerous topics, including the economic impacts of BSE on the beef industry, the effects of best management practices on



Luc Valentin

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

profitability, and the consequences of policies aimed at reducing Atrazine pollution. In his dissertation, Dr. Valentin analyzed Round-Up Ready soybeans and the distribution of welfare gains within the industry. He hopes to focus on several more farm management questions, as well as overall efficiency improvement and the use of new data collection technologies in agriculture.



Holly Wang

**Dr. Holly Wang** has joined the department as an associate professor. She worked at Washington State University for the past ten years as assistant and

then associate professor. She specializes in agricultural risks, derivative markets and crop insurance. Dr. Wang has advised eight Ph.D. students as their major professor, and most of them are working in the finance industry today. She has taught Ph.D. level courses in supply and demand systems, decision analysis, and marketing. She has also taught undergraduate corporate finance. Dr. Wang is interested in international issues, especially agricultural risks and finance in China. She travels to China every year and has developed a broad professional network there. Dr. Wang is the current Vice Chair of the AAEA Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics, and President Elect of Chinese Economists Society, a US-based organization focusing on the research of Chinese economic issues. Dr. Wang received her Ph.D. and master's degrees from Michigan State University, and her B.S. degree from Tsinghua University, China. She resides in West Lafayette with her husband, Hao Zhang, and their daughters, Robin and Rachel.

In May **Dr. Badri Narayanan**

**Gopalakrishnan** joined the Center for Global Trade Analysis as a Database Construction Specialist and Research Economist. He is working with the

Center staff and those in the GTAP Network to assist with the construction, documentation, and production of databases, conduct research, and teach short courses.

Dr. Gopalakrishnan completed a Bachelor of Technology degree in Textile Technology from PSG College of Technology in 2002. In pursuit of his Ph.D., Badri submitted his dissertation, "Some Economic Issues in Indian Textile Sector", to the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), and was a Fellow at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) working in the areas of trade and industry. Badri has other research interests including industrial economics, labor economics, productivity analysis, demand analysis, CGE modeling, environmental economics, development issues, and applied econometrics/time series. Prior to joining GTAP, Badri was with ICRIER as a Fellow, where he worked on a project on 'Competitiveness of the Indian Auto Industry', sponsored by the Government of India, and coordinated other research projects in the areas of industry and finance. He was a part of the IGIDR team involved in the preparation of the Development Report and State of the Environment Report of Maharashtra State in India, for the Government of India.



Farzad Taheripour

economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, his M.S. in Economic Systems Planning in 1989 from Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan,



Badri Narayanan  
Gopalakrishnan

Iran, and his B.A. in Economics in 1986 from Shiraz University, Shiraz, Iran. Dr. Taheripour's areas of concentration are applied microeconomics (environmental and natural resource economics and energy economics), public finance, and econometrics. He started his career after obtaining his master's degree and worked in several universities, governmental organizations, and firms in Iran, where he taught several economics courses and participated on and managed various multidisciplinary research projects in applied economics. Dr. Taheripour has written several papers on Iran's economy in Farsi and English. His dissertation, "Welfare Impacts of Alternative Public Policies for Environmental Protection in Agriculture in an Open Economy: A General Equilibrium Framework," uses analytical and numerical general equilibrium models to evaluate the welfare impacts of a wide range of policies for reducing pollution from crop production in an open economy while recognizing the presence of distortionary agricultural support subsidies and factor income taxes. Farzad and his spouse, Mina, have three daughters; Firouzeh, Pardis, and Parisa.



Meghan Alexander

**Meghan Alexander** joined the Department of Agricultural Economics as the Program Manager for the Center for Global Trade Analysis in July 2007.

Her responsibilities include managing the Center's programs both at home and abroad, marketing the Center's programs and products, building relationships with the Center's funding bodies and University departments, developing new programs and seeking new funding opportunities, overseeing the Center's finances, books and paper series. Meghan is a graduate of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and holds a M.Ed. in Counseling. Prior to joining GTAP, she was an International Liaison Officer at Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.



# INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

## Staff

**LouAnn Baugh** - Awarded Provost recognition for 10 years of Administrative Professional service.

**Luanna DeMay** - College Of Agriculture Administrative Professional promotion to Level 5.

**Sandy Dottle** - Received 35-year University Clerical Service Award.

**Linda Klotz** - Received 10-year University Clerical Service Award.

**LeeAnn Williams** - Awarded Provost recognition for 10 years of Administrative Professional service. Received the College of Agriculture's award for Outstanding Service to Students.

## Faculty

**T. Channing Arndt** - Promotion from Associate Professor to Professor.

**Janet Ayres** - Received the PUCESA Extension Specialist Award. Received the Community Development Society Achievement Award.

**Joseph Balagtas** - Received the Blackwell prize from the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, for best article in the *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* (AJARE) in 2006, for Alston, J.M, J.V. Balagtas, H. Brunke, and D.A. Sumner. "Supply and Demand for Commodity Components: Implications of Free Trade versus the AUSFTA for the U.S. Dairy Industry." *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* 50(2)(June 2006): 131-152.

**Kenneth Foster** - Received the College of Agriculture's award for Outstanding Graduate Educator.

**Allan Gray** - Received the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) Distinguished Individual Extension Program with Under 10 Years of Experience.

**Thomas Hertel** - Received the AAEA Quality of Communication Award for Poverty and the WTO: Impacts of the Doha Development



Kenneth Foster

Agenda, by Thomas W. Hertel and L Alan Winters, Editors, A co-publication of the World Bank and Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2006, 537 pages.

**William Masters**- Named Co-Editor in Chief (with Jerry Shively) of *Agricultural Economics*, the journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

**George Patrick** - Elected Chair of the AAEA Senior Section for 06-07.

**Gerald Shively** - Named Co-Editor in Chief (with Will Masters) of *Agricultural Economics*, the journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

**Christine Wilson** - Received the College of Agriculture's Richard L. Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award. Received the Teaching Award of Merit from the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture.

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution

**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Purdue University