DeBoer Presented with Hovde Award

Dr. Larry DeBoer received the 2010 Hovde Award at the Indiana Farm Bureau convention in Fort Wayne, Ind. Named after Purdue's seventh president who served from 1946 to 1971, this award honors Purdue staff with a record of outstanding achievement and service to rural communities. “Larry is the leading state and local government public policy analyst and educator in Indiana,” said Dr. Jay Akridge, Purdue's Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture. “Larry's outreach program is a tremendous example of Purdue Extension at work, and the Hovde Award reflects the difference he has made across our state.” For more than 24 years Dr. DeBoer has studied state and local fiscal policy. He frequently works with elected officials and school administrators in rural communities on budget and property tax issues. He’s made numerous presentations on fiscal and property tax assessment to government, agricultural, education, business and public groups. Larry DeBoer shares his expertise through a Local Government Information Web site, a monthly “Capital Comments” newspaper column and podcasts. He also consults with the Indiana Legislative Services Agency about tax and finance issues and analyzes the fiscal impacts of riverboat gaming on local governments for the Indiana Gaming Commission. “Larry DeBoer's impact is felt all across rural Indiana, both directly and indirectly via his contact with public decision makers in Indianapolis and in local government,” said Dr. Ken Foster, head of Purdue's Department of Agricultural Economics. “His tireless effort to instill sound economics into public choices in a non-advocacy framework epitomizes the mission of the Frederick L. Hovde Award of Excellence in Educational Service to Rural People of Indiana.”

http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/faculty/deboer.asp

2010 AAEA Honors

Dr. Thomas Hertel was elected President of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA), and is serving a 3-year term. This position was previously held by Purdue's Dr. Otto Doering. At the annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, Dr. Hertel gave a presidential address entitled: “The Global Supply and Demand for Agricultural Land in 2050: A Perfect Storm in the Making?” http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/pdf/Hertel_AAEA_Presidential_Address_LongVersion.pdf

Realizing that professional success depends on professional recognition, the AAEA takes pride in recognizing the outstanding contributions of its members in a variety of different categories. This year, Dr. Maria Marshall was honored with the Distinguished Individual Extension Award for those with less than 10 years of service for her work in small business development, and research-based decision making tools for entrepreneurs, Extension educators, and small business development practitioners. This is the most prestigious award available for early career Extension professionals in the Agricultural Economics profession. http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/faculty/marshall.asp

Professor and Department Head Ken Foster was named the President-elect of the National Association of Agricultural Economics Administrators (NAAEA). The mission of the NAAEA is to improve the leadership and management of agricultural economics programs; to support the acquisition of resources to carry out agricultural economics research, teaching, and extension programs; and to address common needs and concerns of agricultural economics administrators. Membership in the NAAEA includes individuals who administer departments or units in academia, public agencies and foundations offering and supporting agricultural economics, resource economics, agribusiness management and similar research, teaching, and/or Extension programs. http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/faculty/foster.asp

PUCESA Junior Award

Dr. Corinne Alexander was awarded the 2009 Junior Achievement Award by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service Association (PUCESA). The PUCESA Junior Award recognizes an Extension specialist with less than 10 years of service. Criteria

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DEPARTMENT HEAD, KENNETH FOSTER, COMMENTS

The great Albert Einstein said, “Weakness of attitude becomes weakness of character.” There is little doubt in the truth of this. Our attitude on a daily basis affects how we treat others, the choices we make and the response of those around us to those choices and our ideas. The culture among the faculty and staff in the Department of Agricultural Economics is one of mutual respect and responsibility. I credit the success of Agricultural Economics students in assuming leadership roles to this “will do” attitude and an attitude of service toward students and stakeholders that our faculty and staff model on a daily basis. If you read this newsletter closely you will see evidence of the leadership assumed by Agricultural Economics students at Purdue. The current student government Vice President, the President of the Purdue Foundation Student Board, and all of the officers of the Ag Council are students in the Department of Agricultural Economics.

What have I also discovered in the past two years as Head of the Department is just how many of our students continue this service to community, society, and industry after they graduate. In this newsletter, you will read about a few that we honored in the past year with awards, but there are so many more - far too many to mention them all - and I meet them where ever I go all over the world. These individuals are giving their time and effort to improve their communities for future generations, including the welfare of the poorest people around the world, and working to craft improved public policy for the benefit of society. Those of us working in the department feel a great sense of pride from the accomplishments of our students and alumni. Thanks to all of our alumni and friends for their continued support. Your support and accomplishments make it easier to come to work with a great attitude each and every day! HAIL PURDUE!

PURDUE AGRICULTURE IN CHINA

On May 21, 2010, Purdue University held the first ever ‘Purdue Days’ at China Agriculture University (CAU) in Beijing, P.R. China. The event was a result of the Global Food Security Summit co-chaired by Drs. Jay Aldridge, Dean of the College of Agriculture at Purdue, and Qin Sun, Vice President of CAU. President France Córdova addressed the audience about interest in our programs. The Purdue CAFO Team expressed an interest in collaboration with the team with a focus on food animal production on Indian communities.

On May 22, 2010 over 20 peer-reviewed publications, hosted several symposia, and conducted original research in the areas of community impact and public health. The Purdue CAFO Team remains dedicated to working closely with stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of food animal production in India for future generations. Team Members from AgEcon include: Jon Doering, Michael Bohchle, Larry DeBoer, Roman Keeney, and Kevin McNamara.

Eco-Park Panama

Dr. John Lee, Associate Director of the Center for the Environment (CAE), traveled to Panama conducting and guiding research on a diverse set of questions regarding the impacts of the expansion of the Panama Canal on wildlife and people including acoustic impacts, animal relocation, and the illegal wildlife trade. Together with Southern Illinois University and the Rotary of Panama, the team has identified an abandoned U.S. military base as the

DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

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Tyner Receives Named Chair

Board of Trustees voted unanimously to name Dr. Wallace Tyner the Concern and Leadership in Agricultural Economics. His research interests are in the areas of energy, agricultural, and natural resource policy analysis, and structural and sectoral adjustment in developing economies. His work in energy economics has encompassed oil, natural gas, coal, shale, biomass, ethanol from agricultural sources, and solar energy. Most of his recent work has focused on economic and policy analysis for biofuels, a well-deserved honor recognizing Dr. Tyner’s broad contribution to our department and college as well as his development of the full breadth of the Land Grant ideal.

Martin Receives PAA Award

The Purdue Alumni Associated Science (PAA) Award. Established in 1981, the Special Boilermaker Award honors those who have contributed significantly to improving the quality of life or bettering the educational experience for Purdue students. Dr. Martin is the associate director of agricultural research programs and a professor of agricultural economics. For more than 30 years Marshall Martin has made extraordinary contributions to undergraduate music programs at Purdue. He has advised hundreds of undergraduates and more than 40 graduate students, earning the department’s outstanding teacher award seven times, and the outstanding thesis or dissertation advisor award five times.

Doering Named Director

Dr. Otto Doering, professor of agricultural economics, has been named the director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center after serving as interim since October 2009. Dr. Doering provides leadership and guidance for PURC, as well as new college collaborations with the Energy and the Center for the Environment to enhance the Global Sustainability Initiative. Dr. Doering has served in numerous capacities offering direction and service regarding policy issues related to agriculture, resources, energy and the environment. He was director of Purdue’s Energy Policy Research and Information Program, and the first director of Indiana’s State Utility Forecasting Group. He has also served as a regional policy advisor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the 77, 99, and 96 farm bills. In addition, Dr. Doering has years of experience working on the economic analysis of environmental issues and shares a part of the Nobel Peace Prize with the many individuals working on climate change in the full breadth of the Land Grant ideal.
DEPARTMENT NEWS AND EVENTS

(continued from pg 3)

Legacy Award to Lowenberg-Deboer

Precision Ag has named Dr. James Mintert, associate professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University, 2010’s Outstanding Service Award recipient. The award was presented during the annual meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association in New Orleans.

The award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the profession or to society. Mintert received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue in 1986.

Mintert has served the agricultural economics profession in many capacities over the course of his career. He is currently the director of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, and a member of the Federal Reserve’s Open Market Committee. Mintert is also a member of the Federal Reserve’s Open Market Committee.

Awards Announced for Exemplary Senior Research Pelican

The Agricultural Economics Department announced the recipients of this year’s Awards for Excellence in Research. The awards recognize outstanding contributions to agricultural economics research by senior and graduate students.

The awards were presented during the annual meeting of the American Agricultural Economics Association in New Orleans.

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DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

(continued)

Dr. James Mintert

Mintert has returned to his alma mater, Purdue University, following 14 years in research and development executive roles at Dow AgroSciences, a subsidiary of Dow Chemical Company. Prior to joining Dow AgroSciences in 2008, Mintert worked closely with Purdue Agriculture scientists, primarily for agricultural clients. He has received numerous awards and recognition from Governing Boards of Agriculture Extension and Economic Development programs in the Midwest and Southwest regions.

As a Purdue alumnus, Mintert continues his professional relationship with Purdue. He advises the agency on policies and procedures, representing the bank in agricul­tural research, recruiting and working with the board of directors. He holds masters and doctoral degrees in agricultural economics from Purdue and a bachelor’s degree in economics from Central College in Pella, Iowa.

Warren Preston, of Alexandria, Va., is associate deputy administrator and chief economist for the Livestock and Seed Program in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Marketing Service. He advises the agency on policies and programs that affect livestock, meat, fish, grain and seed industries. He earned his masters and doctoral degrees in agricultural economics from Purdue and was a member of the faculty at the University of California, Davis. He is a familiar name to many Purdue faculty and staff.

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bachelor's degree in dairy science from Ohio State University. Kim Emshwiller, is president of Vision Ag Inc., which offers full farm management services in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. With her sister, Ms. Emshwiller also began Blue Monday Soap Co., which produces all natural handmade soap and body products. Other businesses she owns are Prairie's Edge, specializing in everything outdoors, and Auto Works, a repair shop. She holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Purdue.

Evelyn Ott of Jeffersonville, Ind., has pledged a gift to the matching Presidential and Trustee Scholarship program that will ultimately create a $5 million dollar endowment. Dr. the Leland E. R. Memorial Scholarship will provide 4 – 5 full ride scholarships annually for undergraduate students studying the department. Dr. Ott's husband, Dr. Leland Ott, who earned a doctoral degree in agricultural economics from Purdue and served on the faculty of Cornell University.

Faculty Chosen for Centennial AJAE

Ag Econ faculty members were among the authors chosen to write papers in the recently released Centennial Issue of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics. Below is a link to the abstract of each article.

Food and Consumer Economics

Coauthors: Lauren Unterehr, James Eales, Helen Jensen, Erin Clark, and Jean Kinsey. Agricultural economists first carried out demand studies in order to understand determinants of farm political ed movements and the shift to a focus on consumer welfare began with studies of the role of food and food assistance in standards of living. Now the profession is more concerned with how information and quality attributes influence consumer behavior. Agricultural economists' empirical work in this field has informed the development of household production theory, hedonic price theory, definitions of poverty thresholds, market organization, and the development of data and analysis for financial management, strategic management, and agribusiness education. http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/faculty/boehlje.asp

ICEE Receives Adam Smith Award

In September 2009, the Indiana Council for Economic Education (ICEE), under the direction of Dr. Harlan Day, received the national Adam Smith Award from the Council for Economic Education in education. ICEE was a recipient of this award in 2007 for its outstanding work in the field of economic education.

Coauthors: Laurian Unnevehr, James Eales, Helen Jensen, Erin Clark, and Jean Kinsey. Agricultural economists first carried out demand studies in order to understand determinants of farm political ed movements and the shift to a focus on consumer welfare began with studies of the role of food and food assistance in standards of living. Now the profession is more concerned with how information and quality attributes influence consumer behavior. Agricultural economists' empirical work in this field has informed the development of household production theory, hedonic price theory, definitions of poverty thresholds, market organization, and the development of data and analysis for financial management, strategic management, and agribusiness education. http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/directory/faculty/boehlje.asp

Top Farmer Crop Workshop

The 34th annual workshop took place July 18-2, 2010, in the Pfender Hall Deans Auditorium on Purdue’s West Lafayette campus and at the Beck Agricultural Center at the Purdue University Center for Research and Education.

The “Purdue Top Farmer Crop Workshop aims to help commercial producers achieve their goals through improved management,” said Bruce Erickson, Purdue Extension director of cropping systems and the workshop coordinator. “By attending, a farmer can better decide if a technology is a good fit for their farm, deal with the changing economic environment and maximize their yields and efficiency. The event featured more than 30 speakers from Purdue’s College of Agriculture and sister AgTechR两句 in the development and distribution of K-12 curriculum materials. The ICEE holds: its annual Econ Camp for high school teachers of economics every fall at Buffalo Camp Tecumseh. The Camp is the professional development highlight of the year for these outstanding teachers. Faculty from the department participate at each camp and in 2009 Dr. Jerry Shively, Ono Dorrin, and Larry DeBoer were the speakers. Participants always comment on how much they learn at the camp and subsequently utilize the teaching materials and the classroom approach of the ICEE program is visible. A team of students from St. Joseph High School in South Bend was crowned National Champion in the annual Federal Challenge Competition, and a team of high school economics students from Carmel High School is in third in the nation in the Economics Challenge Competition, sponsored by the Council for Economic Education (CEE). http://www.econ-ed.org/
OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers – Carissa McCoy

Marshall A. Martin Public Policy Scholarship – Renee Foltz

F. Van Smith Scholarship – Sarah Jordan

Kim Hoeing was elected President of the Purdue Foundation Student Board

Jamie Steiner was elected Vice President of the Purdue Student Government

Emily Lynne Hirsch of Fort Branch, Ind., was named the Outstanding Sophomore in the College of Agriculture. Hirsch is an agribusiness management major and dean’s list student. She’s been a delegate to the Purdue President’s Roundtable and is the 2010 President of the College of Agriculture Council. Other activities include Agribusiness Management Club and Alpha Chi Omega. She was a sales support intern for Beck’s Hybrids during the summer of 2009, where she handled various assignments from developing the seed dealer network to conducting a phone survey. Hirsch is the daughter of Michael and Beverly Hirsch.

Kendra Arrington won 1st place in the Graduate Oral Research Contest at the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Science (MANRRS) Conference. Kendra’s presentation was entitled: “An Evaluation of Consumer Segments for Farmers’ Markets in Indiana and Illinois”. Kendra’s major professor was Dr. Jennifer Dennis. Kendra joined the Foreign Agricultural Service of USDA in Washington, D.C.

David Ortega won the William Applebaum Memorial Scholarship Award for his M.S. Thesis from the Food Distribution Research Society. David’s research “Essays on Mean Demand in China” was supervised by Dr. Holly Wang. You can read an article, “Economists Study How to Improve China’s Food Safety” in LiveScience about David’s East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute project on food safety conducted while he was in China traveling to various cities gathering data for the study. http://www.livescience.com/health/China-food-preference-safety.html

Miriam Otoor received an African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) fellowship from the CGIAR Gender and Diversity program where 60 fellows were selected from 496 applicants. This 2-year program is designed around establishing mentoring partnerships, strengthening scientific skills and developing leadership capacity. Dr. Joan Fulton will serve as mentor for Miriam through this program.

The 2009 Townsend Outstanding Communicator in Agriculture Debate Competition was won by the team of Beau Williamson (AgEcon), Christine Penner (AgEcon), and Bruce Conley (Ag and Biological Engineering). The team took first place for their debate topic: “Organic Food is a Better Choice for Consumers.” Beau, Christy and Bruce were coached by Dr. Frank Dooley and received Dell Mini laptops and a trophy.

Jacob Smoker and Mohamad Abiad of Team TerraMat took first place in the Student Soybean and Corn Innovation competition sponsored by the Indiana Soybean Alliance and Indiana Corn Marketing Council. They created a cork product that can be made with both soybeans and corn and used for flooring, insulation and other uses. Jacob Smoker is an agricultural economics and horticulture production and marketing major, and Mohamad Abiad is an agricultural and biological engineering doctoral student.

Andrew Sowell received the D. Woods Thomas Memorial International Support Scholarship. During May-July, 2010, Andrew was in Ecuador collecting data for his thesis which concerns the benefits accruing from an improved variety of naranjilla (an Andean fruit), which is resistant to Fusarium, a devastating fungus.

Amanda Leister was awarded a fellowship from the National Science Foundation to participate in the 2010 East Asia and Pacific Summer Institute. Amanda worked on her PhD Dissertation from June through August at Nagoya City University in Japan.

Benoit Delebecq was awarded the Biland Dissertation Fellowship for Fall 2010.

Peter Mitchell received grant funding for his thesis study from the North Central Region - Sustainable Agriculture Researcher and Education (NCR-SARE) for his project titled Farmer Access to Regional Meat Processing Capacity in the North Central Region – A Spatial Approach. Peter’s thesis advisor is Dr. Raymond JGM Florax.

Bottum-Kohlmeyer Award

Tamara Ogle (AGEC-MS May 2010) and Roman Keeny (AGEC..Agr. Prof.) were awarded the J. Carroll Bottum & J. B. Kohlmeyer Non-Advocacy Public Policy Award in support of their research program analysing efficiency of government farm and rural policy. That work estimated the impact on farm household incomes following changes in government payments delivered through programs which support farm income, prices, and conservation practices. Their findings show that the income impacts of farm programs differ significantly across farm households depending on both farm practices (e.g. crop rotations, enterprise diversity) and household behavior (e.g. off-farm employment, household size).

With economic forecasts indicating a continuation of slow economic growth and large federal deficits the findings of this research and the approach of comparing policy alternatives on objective efficiency grounds will be of increasing importance for understanding the farm household level consequences of changing policies in agriculture.

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Administrative Professional Promotions: Rhonda Reeves, promotion to Level 4
Dr. Harlan Day, promotion to Level 6
Jeff Greiner, promotion to Level 4
Jeff Sanzen, promotion to Level 5
Debby Weber, promotion to Level 5

Dr. Janet Ayres was inducted into the Carroll County Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Dr. Joseph V. Balagtas was promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Jennifer Dennis was named to the Entrepreneurial Leadership Academy

Dr. Otto Doering has been made Chair of the Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board’s Committee on Integrated Nitrogen

Dr. Joan Fulton was elected President of the University Faculty Senate

Dr. George Patrick was named Director of the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation

Dr. Wallace Tyner has been appointed as a member of a National Academy of Sciences study committee on Economic and Environmental Impacts of Increasing Biofuels Production

Dr. Brigette Waldorf has been selected to receive a 2010 Kinsey Trust Award for her proposal entitled, “The Effect of Macroeconomic Shocks on the Food Stamp Program”.

Dr. Terrie Walmley was promoted to Research Associate Professor

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NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Brent Gloy
Dr. Brent Gloy is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics. He teaches and conducts research and Extension programs in the areas of agricultural finance and agribusiness management. The majority of his research has focused on issues related to the supply and demand for credit. Dr. Gloy currently serves as the Director of the Center for Commercial Agriculture and an Associate Director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business. He teaches an undergraduate course in Agricultural and Food Business Strategy. Prior to arriving at Purdue, Dr. Gloy was an associate professor in the Department of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University. There he taught undergraduate courses in Agribusiness Strategy and Agricultural Finance and a graduate course in Agricultural Finance. In addition to his traditional classroom teaching, Dr. Gloy participated and led classes on a number of international and domestic farm and agribusiness field studies. These have included trips to Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Holland, and Australia. Domestic farm management field study destinations have included California, Texas, Florida, and Georgia. In the past he has also directed the Cornell Farm Credit Fellows program where students are paired with a lender and borrower in order to complete an intensive investment analysis and credit committee report. The Fellows then travel to New York City where they visit with several key financial market participants. An Agricultural Economist, Brent received his M.S. and Ph.D. from Purdue University. In addition to his activities at Purdue, Brent remains involved in the family farm business located in Southwestern Nebraska.

Dr. Juan Sesmeno
Dr. Juan Sesmeno joins the department as an assistant professor on August 16 after completing his Ph.D. in agricultural economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Juan’s teaching and research activities are focused primarily on natural resource and environmental economics. He has a strong interest in the identification and measurement of trade-offs between economic efficiency and distributional equity in the context of energy, climate, and water policy. Juan is also interested in the role of technological progress in resource extraction and the resulting ecological sustainability of production systems. His research also includes measurement of environmental and marketing efficiency in the biofuels industry and agricultural productivity growth in China.

Dr. Angela Gloy
Dr. Angela Gloy joins the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue in August as a Farm Business Planning Specialist. Her emphasis is farm family succession planning, including retirement and estate planning issues that accompany the transfer process. Beginning in 2011, Angela will assume responsibility for teaching the undergraduate estate planning course in the department. Previously, Angela worked with the New York FarmNet and FarmLink Programs at Cornell University. The New York program business model serves as a springboard for her work with developing a one-on-one farm family assistance program in Indiana. Efforts to develop a state-wide Extension-based team that can facilitate individual families’ succession planning process are a priority. She will be working closely with the farm community on programming, developing written planning tools for farmers, and promoting all of the planning processes (e.g., business, marketing, estate, retirement, and succession) relevant to farm businesses. Angela’s work with farm families complements existing departmental programs offered by farm business management faculty. Prior to working on farm succession issues, Angela worked with the Cornell Program on Dairy Markets and Policy, focusing primarily on market development opportunities for the industry. Her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are from Texas A&M University and Purdue University, respectively.

Wilford H. M. Morris
Wilford “Bill” H.M. Morris, 88, of West Lafayette, died Sunday, Feb. 14, 2010, at his residence in Westminster Village. Born July 25, 1921, in London, England, he was the son of the late Harry John Morris and Leslie Helen Wade Morris. While living in England, he served in the Royal Army of Great Britain. His first marriage was to Shirley Hawthorn on June 4, 1952, in Logan, Utah, and she preceded him in death on Sept. 19, 1992. His second marriage was to Rachel Stark in 1997, and she preceded him in death in 2000. Dr. Morris received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Cambridge University and earned his Ph.D. from Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. He came to West Lafayette in 1955 and was a professor of agricultural economics at Purdue University until retiring in 1989. He was a leader in the interdisciplinary study of hog production facilities, and was internationally recognized for his work in farm labor science. He owned Morris Rentals and formerly owned Walscott Weavers, Weavers Three, Old Abbingdon Weavers and Churchill Weavers. He was a member of St. John’s Episcopal Church. He was an avid collector of various types of art and had spoken on various occasions at St. Meinrad Monastery about textiles. Surviving are a son, Edward Morris of Covington, Ky.; four daughters, Lesley Hill (husband: Garrie) of Granville, Ohio, Penny Schmicker and Audrey Compere (husband: Kent), both of Elgin, Ill., and Susan Johnson of West Lafayette; and one sister, Rosemary Morris of Leicester, England, and 10 grandchildren.

Dr. Cliford M. Hardin
Dr. Cliford M. Hardin, the first secretary of agriculture in the Nixon administration, died April 4, 2010, at his home in Lincoln, Neb. He was 94. Cliford Morris Hardin was born on Oct. 9, 1915, near Knightsrown, Ind. While his father worked on agricultural ventures in Florida to supplement the family income, Cliford managed the family farm. Dr. Hardin earned undergraduate, masters and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue. He taught at Purdue, the University of Wisconsin, and Michigan State College (now Michigan State University). In 1954, at age 39, he became chancellor of the University of Nebraska, where he helped quadruple enrollment and persuaded the state legislature to raise professors’ salaries. Cliford M. Hardin was sworn in as agriculture secretary on Jan. 22, 1969. He was known for his program limiting farm federal crop subsidies. His “set-aside” plan in the 1970 Farm Bill called for farmers to leave a certain percentage of their land idle to qualify for federal payments and price supports. Dr. Hardin’s other achievements included extending the food stamp program and setting up a bureau to administer food programs. One of Dr. Hardin’s final acts as agriculture secretary was introducing Woody Owl as a mascot of the Forest Service. Woody became famous for his exhortation, “Give a Hoot, Don’t Pollute.” Dr. Cliford Hardin went on to be vice chairman for research for the Railtron Putina Company and chairman of its Canadian unit, director of the Center for the Study of American Business (now Weidenbaum Center at Washington University in St. Louis), and also vice president and director of Stifel Nicolaus, an investment banking firm. Dr. Hardin is survived by his wife of 70 years, the former Martha Love Wood; his daughters, Sar Wood, Cynthia Milligan and Nancy Rogers; his sons, Clifford Wood and James Hardin; his sister, Phyllis Walls; 15 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

OBITUARIES

Dr. Cliford M. Hardin
Dr. Cliford M. Hardin, the first secretary of agriculture in the Nixon administration, died April 4, 2010, at his home in Lincoln, Neb. He was 94. Cliford Morris Hardin was born on Oct. 9, 1915, near Knightsrown, Ind. While his father worked on agricultural ventures in Florida to supplement the family income, Cliford managed the family farm. Dr. Hardin earned undergraduate, masters and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue. He taught at Purdue, the University of Wisconsin, and Michigan State College (now Michigan State University). In 1954, at age 39, he became chancellor of the University of Nebraska, where he helped quadruple enrollment and persuaded the state legislature to raise professors’ salaries. Cliford M. Hardin was sworn in as agriculture secretary on Jan. 22, 1969. He was known for his program limiting farm federal crop subsidies. His “set-aside” plan in the 1970 Farm Bill called for farmers to leave a certain percentage of their land idle to qualify for federal payments and price supports. Dr. Hardin’s other achievements included extending the food stamp program and setting up a bureau to administer food programs. One of Dr. Hardin’s final acts as agriculture secretary was introducing Woody Owl as a mascot of the Forest Service. Woody became famous for his exhortation, “Give a Hoot, Don’t Pollute.” Dr. Cliford Hardin went on to be vice chairman for research for the Railtron Putina Company and chairman of its Canadian unit, director of the Center for the Study of American Business (now Weidenbaum Center at Washington University in St. Louis), and also vice president and director of Stifel Nicolaus, an investment banking firm. Dr. Hardin is survived by his wife of 70 years, the former Martha Love Wood; his daughters, Sar Wood, Cynthia Milligan and Nancy Rogers; his sons, Clifford Wood and James Hardin; his sister, Phyllis Walls; 15 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

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The Department of Agricultural Economics announces the establishment of the Center for Commercial Agriculture.

Sustainably meeting the world’s increasing demands for agricultural products will require increasingly complex and sophisticated farming businesses. The purpose of the Center for Commercial Agriculture is to provide the knowledge and education necessary to enable these farms to thrive. The Center accomplishes this by conducting applied research on issues important to the business of commercial agriculture, developing educational programs for farm managers and employees, and creating unique educational opportunities for undergraduate students who will manage the farms and agribusinesses of the future.

Our Vision: To be the leading source of management education and knowledge generation for the farmers in the business of producing the world’s agricultural products. Our research, education, and delivery will be world class. Our perspective will be global and science-based but with impact for stakeholders in their local setting.

The Center is committed to providing unique, highly-experiential educational opportunities to the undergraduate students that will manage the farms and agribusinesses of the future. Our educational enrichment opportunities are designed to add to the traditional educational experience by giving students the ability to participate in high-impact activities not found in traditional educational programs. One of our core educational philosophies is that exposure to real-world businesses opportunities and situations significantly broadens the student experience and cements class room lessons.

The Center conducts focused, applied, and practical research programs designed to address issues most relevant to the commercial agricultural sector. The Center’s faculty are engaged in continuing foundational research in the areas of farm management, agricultural finance, agricultural marketing, and agricultural production systems. Additionally, the Center undertakes research projects on high-priority research projects designed to specifically address important issues facing commercial agriculture. These projects are identified through active engagement with stakeholders and are meant to provide timely, relevant answers to important issues currently facing commercial agriculture.

The Center designs, develops, and delivers educational programming and events to assist commercial operations in building their management knowledge and systems. The educational offerings include a wide range of activities from topical conferences to in-depth curricular based educational programs. These events include several long-standing, traditional programs such as the Purdue Top Farmer Crop workshop and Purdue Farm Management Tour. Additionally, the Center is working to develop new, innovative programs that meet the evolving needs of today’s commercial farms and to develop customized educational programs designed to meet specific educational goals and objectives of sponsoring organizations.