

# Keeping Track

PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Vol. XVIII No. 1

Fall 2011

## 2011 AAEA HONORS

The Agricultural and Applied Economics Association held its annual meeting in July 2011 in Pittsburgh, PA, and many faculty and staff from the department were involved as organizers, presenters, moderators, and discussants. Several were honored for their outstanding programs in Extension and Teaching:



Dr. Corinne Alexander

Dr. Corinne Alexander received the Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program Award for an Individual with Less Than 10 Years' Experience. Her Extension program has two major focus areas – price risk management and marketing of value-added products. In both areas Alexander has distinguished her program by responding to producer's needs, working in a multi-disciplinary framework, and having a major impact on producers' decisions. A core strength is that her Extension programs are not only underpinned by her research but her research program is driven by her Extension program, and the questions that are relevant to her Extension audiences.



Dr. Scott Downey

Dr. Scott Downey received the Distinguished Teaching Award for the category of "Less than 10 Years' Experience." Downey received this award in recognition of the quality of his teaching in the large-lecture classroom, his innovation in facilitating interaction between students and industry and his contributions to improving the teaching structure and curriculum. Dr. Downey is one of the most popular instructors, teaching a large introductory sales course (AGEC 33100). As a service course this course draws from students across campus and has nearly doubled in size under Dr. Downey's tutelage. A unique contribution of Dr. Downey is his ability to include high levels of professional interaction with the students even with large course sizes.

Dr. Frank Dooley received the Distinguished Teaching Award for the category of "Undergraduate Teaching with 10 or More Years' Experience." This award recognizes his outstanding performance in the classroom as well as his service and leadership for teaching across the Purdue campus and the professional agricultural economics associations. He has published about teaching in the American Journal of Agricultural Economics and is a frequent presenter at professional meetings on a wide range of teaching and learning topics. He has taught courses ranging from Introductory Microeconomics (AGEC 20300), Principles of Sales, Quantitative Decision Modeling (AGEC 35200), Food Distribution (AGEC 33300), and Supply Chain Management (AGEC 533). Dooley's primary goal is to help students learn to think for themselves and make decisions.



Dr. Frank Dooley

Dr. Joan Fulton was elected to serve as the Treasurer/Secretary of the Teaching, Learning, and Communications Section (TLC) of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA). The TLC Section is a group of AAEA members interested in the theory, scholarship, and practice of learning, teaching, and communication. Given that a large majority of AAEA members have responsibilities in these three areas, the TLC's activities are developed to enhance members' skills in the on-campus classroom, off-campus workshop, and in a presentation to a community group.



Dr. Joan Fulton

## NAMA Team Takes 2<sup>nd</sup> at National Championship

AgEcon students competed against 29 other universities from the United States and Canada to win 2nd place at the National Agri-Marketing Association competition which gives students and professionals the chance to sharpen their marketing skills and stay up-to-date in the agriculture industry. At the two day competition teams had to win two heats based on their written marketing plan and live presentation to be eligible for the final round. This year's NAMA team marketed a cheese and salami bundled product based on Hoosier Homestead, a fictional joint venture between a dairy and swine cooperative who joined forces to add value to their commodities. The team created a marketing plan for the product including the story behind the joint venture, market and competitor analysis, promotional strategy, action plan and financials analysis. The team received a plaque and national recognition.



Back row: Kyle Maple, Addison Sheldon, Urooj Khan, Josh Pottschmidt  
Front row: Michelle Steinbarger, Kim Hoeing, Bailey Perry, Jenna Langley, Christy Penner, David Ortega (advisor)

## Quick Reference

Department of Agricultural Economics  
765-494-4191

Department Head  
Kenneth Foster, Ph.D.  
[kfoster@purdue.edu](mailto:kfoster@purdue.edu)

Associate Head  
Joan Fulton, Ph.D.  
[fultonj@purdue.edu](mailto:fultonj@purdue.edu)

Associate Head  
Director, Graduate Programs  
Gerald Shively, Ph.D.  
[shivelyg@purdue.edu](mailto:shivelyg@purdue.edu)

Associate Head  
Undergraduate Programs  
Craig Dobbins, Ph.D.  
[cdobbins@purdue.edu](mailto:cdobbins@purdue.edu)

Extension Coordinator  
Christopher Hurt, Ph.D.  
[hurtc@purdue.edu](mailto:hurtc@purdue.edu)

Graduate Coordinator  
LouAnn Baugh  
[baughl@purdue.edu](mailto:baughl@purdue.edu)

Director, Undergraduate Advising  
and Student Services  
LeeAnn Williams  
[leewill@purdue.edu](mailto:leewill@purdue.edu)

Program Manager, Purdue-Kelley  
MS-MBA in Food and  
Agribusiness Management  
Luanna DeMay  
[luanna@purdue.edu](mailto:luanna@purdue.edu)

Director, Center for  
Commercial Agriculture  
Brent Gloy, Ph.D.  
[bgloy@purdue.edu](mailto:bgloy@purdue.edu)

Director, Center for  
Food and Agricultural Business,  
and Director, Purdue-Kelley MS-MBA  
Alan Gray, Ph.D.  
[gray@purdue.edu](mailto:gray@purdue.edu)

Director, Center for Rural Development  
Kevin McNamara, Ph.D.  
[mcnamara@purdue.edu](mailto:mcnamara@purdue.edu)

Executive Director, Indiana Council for  
Economic Education  
Harlan Day, Ph.D.  
[dayhr@purdue.edu](mailto:dayhr@purdue.edu)

## Dept Head Comments – Ken Foster

“Most of us could do a wide variety of things depending on what doors open to us and I think I would have enjoyed doing lots of different things but this (being a professor of agricultural economics at Purdue) is the door that was open to me.” These are the words of Professor Bob Taylor days before he retired last spring after 50 years on the Purdue faculty. If you haven't seen the video interview with Bob then I encourage you to visit <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/connections/summer2011/webBonusBobTaylor.shtml>. Those of us who had the good fortune to sit in Dr. Taylor's classroom as students came away changed, and I believe his words above and the way in which they were delivered sum up how that change occurred.

In addition to lessons about economics, his students and advisees gained insights about facing the uncertainties of the future, the power of a positive attitude, and the confidence to recognize and seize opportunities. Thank you Dr. Taylor for walking through that door 50 years ago! Accolades to the many leaders in the agricultural community who received their start as students in agricultural economics at Purdue or who served on the Purdue faculty is a constant refrain as I visit with alumni and others. I won't repeat the names often mentioned because they are many, but rest assured they span the many missions of our department and we are committed to seeing that tradition continue into the future. Faculty at Purdue are leading professional associations, conducting research and extension that influences local, state, and national policy, and instructing the next generation of public and private leaders in agriculture while our graduates are leading corporations, managing private businesses and directing the design and implementation of public policy throughout the world. The doors are many, and I feel inspired as I watch new faces pass through the doorway of Purdue Ag Econ. Speaking of which, we would very much enjoy seeing all of you pass through the doors of the Krannert Building this October as we celebrate Homecoming with a pre-game “Fire Up! Chili Brunch.” Information about the event can be found in the pages of this newsletter.

Go Boilers!



Dr. Kenneth Foster

## AgEcon Homecoming

Join AgEcon faculty, staff and returning alumni at the AgEcon Boiler Up for Homecoming Chili Brunch before the Purdue University Boilermakers take on the Fighting Illini on October 22, 2011. Please come to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Krannert Building in the AgEcon commons area between 9 and 11:30 a.m. to enjoy a chili luncheon, and tailgate in-house with our game-day AgEcon faculty team featuring Emeritus, Howard Doster, Associate Professor, Maria Marshall, and new Research Assistant Professor, Nelson Villoria. We hope to see you there. To register: go to [http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/news/pressrelease\\_homecoming.asp](http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/news/pressrelease_homecoming.asp) and return the form as directed to the Ag Alumni Association. For additional information, contact Angie Flack at 765-494-4208, [amflack@purdue.edu](mailto:amflack@purdue.edu)



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

### 2011 TEAM Award goes to Afghanistan Team



Dr. Kevin McNamara



Dr. James Lowenberg-DeBoer

The Purdue Afghanistan Team is the winner of the Purdue Agriculture's 2011 TEAM Award for its work helping Afghans rebuild their country's agricultural economy by rebuilding their agricultural universities. The team provides MS-level education for Afghan junior faculty to help them develop teaching and research skills, and provides faculty to conduct workshops on curriculum development, disciplinary areas, and Extension methods at Afghan agriculture colleges and the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture. The team also supports applied education on Afghan agriculture for Indiana National Guard Agribusiness Development Team members deploying to Afghanistan. Team members from Agricultural Economics are Dr. Kevin McNamara and Dr. James Lowenberg-DeBoer.

### Patrick Wins WAEA Extension Award



Dr. George Patrick

Dr. George Patrick's "Rural Tax Education Project" won an Outstanding Extension Program Award for Project at the Western Agricultural Economics Association 2011 Award Ceremony June 30, 2011 at Banff, Alberta Canada. The WAEA fosters the study and understanding of agricultural economics and its application to problems in the Western United States and Canada, and is a partner with the American Agricultural Economics Association.

### First APSAC Excellence Award to Jones-Bliss



Betty Jones-Bliss

On May 11, the first APSAC Excellence Award was presented to Betty Jones-Bliss, Associate Director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business (CAB) in the Department of Agricultural Economics. The annual award recognizes a full-time administrative or professional staff member from the West Lafayette campus who demonstrates excellence by showing initiative, leading by example, showing exemplary customer service, acting as a University ambassador and being a high performer. Nominators stated that Jones-Bliss had been instrumental in the growth and development of the center and praised Jones-Bliss's 25 years of service at CAB, including her BettyJonesBliss efforts in developing and delivering highly rated, revenue-generating programs; helping to launch international programming; and recruiting, hiring, and mentoring CAB staff. Jones-Bliss received a plaque and \$1,500.

### Joan Fulton Serving on Presidential Search Committee

Associate Department Head, Dr. Joan Fulton, has been appointed to serve on the Purdue University Board of Trustees Presidential Search Committee that will be responsible for identifying candidates to succeed President France A. Córdoba at the end of her term in July 2012. The committee's charge is to conduct a national search for the very best candidates to lead Purdue University as its 12th president, including evaluating all applications and nominations and submitting to the Board of Trustees an unranked list of candidates that the committee believes to be worthy of the board's consideration. The search committee also will meet with administrators, faculty,

students, alumni, legislators, national and state education leaders, and other stakeholders to learn what they would like to see in a new leader and their aspirations for Purdue. We thank Joan for her service on this important committee. <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/general/2011/110707BOTSearch.html>

### AgEcon Profs Part of \$6M in Grants

Purdue University researchers will get a \$5 million grant to develop decision-support tools to help corn and soybean growers adapt their practices to climate variability and change. AgEcon faculty, Drs. Otto Doering, Ben Gramig, and Paul Preckel, will be involved with economic modeling to predict how different climate scenarios would affect corn and soybean growth and profits through a 12-state region. Dr. Corinne Alexander, will be involved in outreach to engage farmers in the use of decision-support tools developed through this project. <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/research/2011/110628ProkopyGrant.html>

Dr. Ben Gramig is also part of a \$1.59M grant from the Department of Energy awarded to a Purdue team to study sustainability of cellulosic energy crops. Ben will team with faculty in Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Agronomy, and Forestry and Natural Resources to study environmental and economic sustainability of cellulosic energy crops at the watershed-scale. <http://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/research/2010/100916ChaubeyBiofuels.html>



Dr. Otto Doering



Dr. Ben Gramig



Dr. Paul Preckel



Dr. Corinne Alexander



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

### **Barnard Receives Gold Quill Award**

On November 2, 2010, Dr. Freddie Barnard received the Gold Quill Award from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers for the article by Barnard, Paul Ellinger and Christine Wilson, "Measurement Issues in Assessing Farm Profitability through Cash Tax Returns". The award is given for the outstanding article published in the journal each year.



Dr. Freddie Barnard

### **2010 PUCESA Team Award**

Drs. Corinne Alexander, Bruce Erickson, Chris Hurt, Jim Mintert, and George Patrick were honored November 10, 2010 as recipients of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialist Association (PUCESA) Team Award, for Extension specialists who have significantly contributed to Indiana through Purdue Extension. The Managing Moldy Corn Team responded to unprecedented levels of corn ear molds in Indiana in 2009 by developing management recommendations for crop and livestock producers and allied industries, and then delivered the message through teleconferences/webinars, a web site specific to the topic, customizable handouts for Extension Educators, and numerous media releases. PUCESA website: <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/extension/pucesa/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Ag Alumni Certificate of Distinction**

Eleven leaders in agriculture have received the Purdue University Agricultural Alumni Association's highest honor in recognition of their career-long service

to their profession and communities. The association presented Certificates of Distinction on February 5, 2011, during the annual Ag Alumni Fish Fry at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis. The award has been given since 1938, and the recipients are "extraordinary examples of achievement, citizenship and service and exemplify the servant leadership for which our association is known," said Donya Lester, executive secretary of the Agricultural Alumni Association.

William J. Beard of Frankfort, Indiana, is founder of Beard Industries, a worldwide leader in grain dryer manufacturing. He retired from the company in 2002 when it was acquired by CTB Industries, a Berkshire Hathaway company, and became part of its Brock Grain Systems business. Beard is now serving his second term as a Clinton County commissioner. Beard and his wife were instrumental in bringing a YMCA to Clinton County, raising more than \$4 million for the project. He serves on the YMCA's board of directors. Beard received a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics in 1949.



William J. Beard

Mark Townsend of Hartford City, Indiana, is manager and part owner of Townsend Farms, a 2,400-sow operation and 2,200-acre crop farm in Grant and Blackford counties. Townsend Farms has persevered through difficult economic times to be one of the few remaining independent hog producers in Indiana. In the 1990s Townsend served on the Indiana Commission for Agriculture and Rural Development, helping to develop the strategic plan for Indiana agriculture.



Mark Townsend

He was appointed chairman of the state committee of the Agricultural and Conservation Service. Townsend also served on the Purdue Board of Trustees. He received a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics in 1977.

### **Oppy Receives Advising Award**

Congratulations to Andrew (Andy) Oppy for receiving the outstanding young advisor award from the Purdue Academic Advising Association (PACADA). Andy was recognized for his outstanding contributions to student success, as well as making contributions to PACADA. "Academic advising plays to my strengths," Oppy says. "My reward is based on other people's success." He has taken that viewpoint into assisting two organizations, as adviser to the Agribusiness Club and co-adviser to the Agricultural Economics Envoys. Andy teaches the department's freshman orientation course.



Andrew Oppy

### **Distinguished Alumnus**

The College of Agriculture presented its highest honor, the Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Awards in April 2011. This annual event recognizes mid-career graduates who have made significant contributions to their professions or to society. Dr. Paavo Mäkinen, Deputy Head of the European Commission Representation in Helsinki, Finland, was the honored alumnus from Agricultural Economics. He presented a seminar, "Finnish Agriculture Adapting to the European Union and the EU Adapting to the Global Environment". Dr. Mäkinen studied at Purdue as a Fulbright Scholar where



Dr. Paavo Mäkinen

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

his research focused on agricultural and trade policies. He earned his M.S. in 1985, and returned home to Finland to finish his Ph.D. Dr. Mäkinen has held positions in the Ministry of Agriculture, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Central Union of Agricultural Producers, and in the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium. He is generally regarded as the foremost agricultural diplomat in Finland.

### 35th Annual Snyder Lecture & Awards



Dr. Thomas Hoenig

Established in 1975 as a memorial to a deceased distinguished faculty member, the James C. Snyder Memorial Lecture is the Department of Agricultural Economics' signature event. Funds

for the support of the memorial contributed by friends and corporations who wish to encourage the continuation of the professional efforts of Jim Snyder during his brief but brilliant career. The event was attended by Dr. Snyder's spouse, Mary Ruth Snyder and her daughter, Betsy Kashmar. The Snyder guest lecturer was Dr. Thomas Hoenig, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, who participated in a panel discussion on commodity and food prices, and presented the memorial lecture, "Sowing the Seeds: Monetary Policy and the Ag Economy". To view a video of his speech: <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/agecon/Pages/alumni.aspx>

Following the lecture Ken Foster presented both department and APEX award winners.

### Graduate Poster Competition



Patrick Ward

First Place and \$200 was awarded to Patrick Ward for his poster, "Disaster Risk, Social Vulnerability and Economic Development".

Second Place and \$100 was awarded to Daniel Sanders, for "Revisiting Working: Examining the Relationship between Commercial Open Interest in Futures Commodities and Physical Commodity Stocks".

There was a 2-way tie for third place awarded to both Carson Reeling for "The Potential for Exploiting Cross-Media Environmental Effects From Conservation Practices in Maize-Based Cropping Systems", and David Widmar for "The Economics of Using Distiller Grains in Small-Scale Beef Operations in Indiana".

### Outstanding Masters Theses for 2010

Sam Brown- "Rural Electric Cooperatives' Adoption of Renewable Energy Technology". Advisor, Paul Preckel.

Tamara Ogle- "Income Transfer Efficiencies of U.S. Farm Payment Programs". Advisor, Roman Keeney.

### Outstanding PhD Dissertation for 2010

Dileep Birur- "Global Impact of Biofuels on Agriculture, Trade, and Environment: A Computable General Equilibrium Analysis". Advisors, Wallace Tyner and Thomas Hertel.

### Outstanding Undergraduates

Freshman- Travis Martin

Sophomore- Ann Bechman

Junior- Renee Foltz

Senior- Jamie Steiner

### Outstanding Service Awards

Congratulations to Angie Flack and Penny Pava for receiving the department awards for Outstanding Service. The award recognized Angie for her service as the Department Events Coordinator and clerical support to multiple faculty, and Penny for her role as Course Schedule Deputy and administrative professional support of the undergraduate programs and advisors.



Angie Flack



Penny Pava

### APEX Awards

In recognition of those individuals with a strong connection to the Department of Agricultural Economics who have made outstanding contributions in their fields, Dr. Ken Foster presented Apex Awards to four individuals, representing the convergence of accomplishment in the lives of the honorees. "These four outstanding individuals are great examples of the impact that graduates and friends from our department have on society, the agricultural economy and their communities," said Ken Foster, head of the department. "Their influence runs the gamut from providing educational opportunities for our students, improving the livelihoods of rural stakeholders, and framing policy that makes U.S. agriculture more competitive."

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS



David Hefty

David Hefty is CEO and co-founder of Hefty Wealth Partners, located in Auburn, Ind. David started the firm in 2000 along with his wife, and fellow 2011 Apex Award recipient, Stacy Hefty. Since its inception, the firm has grown significantly and employs 10 full time people and has more than \$170 million in assets under management. In his capacity as CEO, David has been instrumental in building a nationally recognized wealth management firm that serves individuals and families across the United States with a concentration in and around the Fort Wayne, Ind., area. David and his wife met as undergraduates at Purdue, where David studied and graduated summa cum laude with a degree in agriculture economics. David was named the outstanding senior in the college of agriculture and was the recipient of the G.A. Ross Award for outstanding senior man on campus. When he is not working at the firm, David enjoys spending time with his wife Stacy and four children.



Stacy Hefty

Stacy Hefty serves as the president of Hefty Wealth Partners, an independent wealth management firm she founded alongside her husband, David, also a 2011 recipient of the Apex Award. Since its founding in 2000, the firm has grown significantly and now has more than \$170 million in assets under management. The firm is recognized as one of the leading wealth management firms, and it provides independent, unbiased financial advice for individuals and families. In her capacity as president, Stacy is responsible for overseeing client services, compliance, and the firm's employees, as well as the seamless first-class

service each client receives from Hefty Wealth Partners. When she is not working at the firm, Stacy enjoys being with her four children, cooking and reading.

Ken McCorkle is Executive Vice President in charge of the Agricultural Industries Group for Wells Fargo Bank, the nation's largest agricultural lender among commercial banks. Ken has been with Wells Fargo for 24 years, interrupted in 1996-97, when he served as President of Early California Foods. Early California was an international olive processing and brand marketing company with production operations in Seville, Spain and Visalia, California. A graduate of the University of California at Davis with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Food Science and Technology, Ken received his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1976 where he subsequently worked under Professor Ray Goldberg, Moffett Professor of Agriculture and Business. Ken is also a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program. Ken and his wife Connie reside in Chicago, Illinois.



Ken McCorkle



Scott N. Mitchell

Scott N. Mitchell is currently Vice President, Corporate Branch in Sumitomo Chemical America, located in New York City. Scott's work crosses over all sectors of the Sumitomo Chemical Group's Businesses in the Americas. One of Scott's key roles is to ensure that good communication occurs between the subsidiaries and Sumitomo Chemical. Additionally, he has been significantly involved in the company's CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Initiatives with particular focus on the Olyset®

Nets long lasting insecticide treated bed nets. These nets are used widely to fight malaria in sub Saharan Africa. Relatedly, Scott serves as the communication window between the company and a large number of United Nations Agencies and large NGOs. Scott Graduated from Purdue University in 1987 with a BS in Agricultural Economics and returned to Purdue to complete his MS in Agricultural Economics in 1992. He is a native of Waveland, Indiana and now resides in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Scott is married and enjoys the company of his wife and their two sons.

### DEPARTMENT NEWS

**ICEE** - The Indiana Council for Economic Education, under the direction of Dr. Harlan Day, will host its Annual Awards for Excellence Program on Friday, September 23 at Indiana Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Insurance, Indianapolis. Classroom Exhibits can be viewed at 10:30 a.m. followed by the awards presentations at 11:00 a.m. For more information email or call Shelly Surber at [surber@purdue.edu](mailto:surber@purdue.edu) 765/494-8541.



Dr. Harlan Day

ICEE will host the 11th annual Econ Camp on October 11 - 12 at Camp Tecumseh near Brookston. The popular Econ Camp is for high school teachers of economics to review economic concepts, share best teaching practices and relate concepts to current public policy, and to promote economics curriculum at the high school level. Dr. Larry DeBoer, Dr. Frank Dooley, and Jeff Sanson are among the speakers. For more information go to: [www.econed-in.org/econcamp.asp](http://www.econed-in.org/econcamp.asp)



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS



Dr. Allan Gray

CAB – During fiscal year 2011, the Center for Food and Agricultural Business under the direction of Dr. Allan Gray continued its tradition of developing and delivering high-quality management education programs for agribusiness professionals from all sectors of agribusiness. Through more than 100 days of programming, the center facilitated learning activities that exposed participants to different points of view, allowing them to gain new perspectives. The center's open enrollment programs drew 350 agribusiness managers from 38 states, and its custom programs reached 652 professionals from 28 states and countries spanning the globe. Key partners throughout the year included companies such as Syngenta, Land O'Lakes, GSI, John Deere, Channel, Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, Pioneer Hi-Bred International and National Oilwell Varco. For more information about the center, visit: [www.agecon.purdue.edu/cab](http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/cab)

### **MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management**

For more than 10 years, agribusiness managers who want to earn a graduate degree while continuing to work full time have looked to the Purdue University-Indiana University MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management. It is the only distance-delivered, dual-degree program in the United States with a focus on the food and agribusiness industries, and its rigorous curriculum prepares students for the challenges they will face as future industry leaders. As of August 2011, the MS-MBA program had 181 graduates and a graduation rate of 97.77. There are 40 students currently completing courses in the two

current cohorts. A new cohort begins in August of each year, and the number of students allowed into the program is intentionally limited to ensure a high-quality educational experience. For more information about the center, visit: [www.agecon.purdue.edu/agribusiness](http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/agribusiness)

### **Farm Management Tour**

The 79th Annual Farm Management Tour was held June 28 and 29, 2011 in Daviess, Knox and Sullivan Counties. Host farms, Del Unger Farms, Melon Acres, T.S. Boyd Grain, Inc., Carnahan & Sons, and Villwock Farms, welcomed record crowds and shared their keys to successful farm management, explained how the management of their operations is changing in response to the vibrant agricultural economy and evolving family circumstances, and explained recent innovations in production practices and adoption of new technology. The Indiana Farm Management Tour is a cooperative effort of the Department of Agricultural Economics, the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and the Indiana Farm Management Association, Inc., please contact Alan Miller, Farm Business Management Specialist, at [millerwa@purdue.edu](mailto:millerwa@purdue.edu)



Alan Miller

### **CCA – Center for Commercial Agriculture**

The 44rd Annual Top Farmer Crop Workshop was held July 17 – 20, 2011 in Pfendler Hall on campus. The workshop, offered by the Center for Commercial Agriculture (CCA) under the guidance of Director, Dr. Brent

Gloy, is a management and technology-focused program that allows participants to evaluate their farming operation and chart a course for the future. It is unique in its focus on the business side of farming, drawing on presenters from academia and agribusiness, and with farmer producers vetting their own ideas and relating their experiences to their farmer peers. In addition to seven faculty presenters from the department, 19 other speakers imparted their knowledge of strategic growth and financial management, marketing and risk management, technology assessment, crop production, and farm operational management. Dr. Bruce Erickson was the moderator and facilitator. This workshop is one of the most successful and longest-running programs geared specifically for farmers. For more information and to view the CCA website: <http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/commercialag/>

### **GTAP - Center for Global Trade Analysis**

The Center for Global Trade Analysis held their 14th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis in Venice, Italy. Over 260 economic researchers and policy makers from 43 nations convened at Ca'Foscari University, San Giobbe Campus from June 14 – 16, 2011.

Jointly sponsored with GTAP under the direction of Executive Director, Dr. Thomas Hertel, the theme was "Governing Global Challenges: Climate Change, Trade, Finance and Development". Topics included environment and climate, trade, distributional and equity issues, dynamics and growth, energy supply



Dr. Brent Gloy



Dr. Thomas Hertel

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

and security, international health issues, poverty, employment and development, conflicts, natural resources, supply and security, and methodology, software and data. Approximately 14 faculty, staff, and graduate students from the department presented their research at the conference. [www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu](http://www.gtap.agecon.purdue.edu)

### OUTSTANDING STUDENTS



Jamie L. Steiner

Jamie L. Steiner was selected as the 2010-11 Outstanding Senior in the College of Agriculture and received a Charles O. McGaughey Leadership Award. In

May 2011 she completed her Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Agricultural Economics with a Political Science minor. She served as the 2010-11 Purdue Student Government Vice President. Her academic success has been recognized by membership in Mortar Board National Senior Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society. She completed the College of Agriculture Dean's Scholars Program and Department of Agricultural Honors program working with Dr. Larry DeBoer studying school consolidation. She was published in the Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research (JPUR). Jamie has complimented her education with a study abroad experience as part of Spring Break Italy 2008, a summer 2009 College of Agriculture Public Policy Internship in Washington D.C. with Congressman Mike Pence, and summer 2010 Product Supply Internship with Chiquita Brands International. Active in numerous other student activities, Jamie held a part-time job with C-SPAN Archives at Purdue Research Park and was featured in the March 2010 Purdue's "5 Students Who . . . Are History Makers". Jamie was

chosen for an Orr Fellowship and is working for Angie's List, a consumer-review company, where she conducts market research.

Benjamin Daily was named the Outstanding Junior in the College of Agriculture. Daily is majoring in agricultural economics and agricultural systems management, maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average. He is vice president of the Agricultural Systems Management Club and participates in Purdue's Agronomy Club, Block and Bridle, Agricultural Economics Club and Food Science Club. Daily has complemented his academics with work experiences, which include personnel management. He also has been active in community service through Alpha Mu, the honor society for agricultural systems management students.

Senior, Beau Williamson, delivered the May 15th commencement address to the attending audience at the College of Agriculture's graduation ceremony.

Outstanding Academic Senior GPA (4-way tie): Emily Hirsch, Chelsey Mann, Yiyuan Xie, and Li Yuan

Arman Batayev received the Martin C. Jischke Outstanding International Student of the Year Award.

Purdue University's College of Agriculture hosted the sixth annual Townsend Outstanding Communicator in Agriculture Debate Competition in October 2010, where students argued the topic, "Land-grant universities are positioned to solve 21st century problems". The debate is named in honor of alumnus,



Beau Williamson, Kim Hoeing, Bruce Cooley (ABE)

Wayne Townsend, whose donation makes the event possible. Townsend, a Purdue College of Agriculture alumnus, supported the debate to help improve the communication skills of students in the college. Townsend served as a Purdue trustee from 1989 to 2004 and has been the recipient of numerous honors, including the Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus Award. The 2010 Townsend Debate Champion Team included two Agricultural Economics students: Beau Williamson and Kim Hoeing, and was coached by Dr. Corinne Alexander. The Runner-Up Team also included two Agricultural Economics students: Chelsea Mann and Michelle Steinbarger; and was coached by Professor, Frank Dooley.

Blake Stowers, an Agricultural Economics major from Frankfort, Indiana, was selected as a member of the Agriculture Future of America's 2011-12 Student Advisory Team. The Team is composed of nine exceptional collegiate men and women who were selected based on their AFA involvement, geographic representation, interest in agriculture and leadership abilities. Team members serve as ambassadors for AFA, meet with industry and association leaders, receive media and communications training and plan the AFA Leaders Conference.

### Scholarship Recipients

R. Dean Dyson Scholarship – Megan Dyson

Jim Hicks and Company Scholarship - Megan Broughton, Kayla Culp, Jenna Day, Kendra Michel, Keith Hoeing, Danielle Haynes, Sarah Jordan, Travis Martin, Josh Pottschmidt, and Jenna Rodibaugh

Indiana Society of Agri-Bankers Award – Danielle Haynes



## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

Indiana Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers – Ashley Beeker and Samuel Koester

Farmers National Company Foundation Scholarship – Joel Putt

Marshall A. Martin Public Policy Scholarship – Amy Winter

National Pork Producers Scholarship – Sarah Jordan and Courtney Smith

Agricultural Economics Study Abroad Scholarships: Thomas Atchley, Jay Fiechter, Michaelann Kresel, Joshua Price, Katherine Ryan, Shelby Wade, and Erin Whittaker



Carson Reeling

Carson Reeling received a runner-up poster award at the graduate student poster competition at the Purdue Climate Change Research Center Annual Meeting on March 4, 2011. There were 26 poster entries from graduate students representing 10 different academic departments across the university. Carson's poster, "The Potential for Exploiting Cross-Media Environmental Effects from Conservation Practices in Maize-Based Cropping Systems", was based on his M.S. thesis research.



Jena Thompson

On March 22, 2011 Jena Thompson, M.S. student, was one of approximately two dozen Purdue students presenting their alternative energy research poster at the "Purdue Alternative Energy Day at the Statehouse" event. Included in the event were solar-powered vehicles, a model of a wind turbine, a model of a solar house, and posters related to various forms of alternative energy. State representatives, Purdue alumni and staff,

Purdue President France Córdova, and many visitors attended and visited with students about their research. Thompson presented her poster of the research conducted with Dr. Wallace Tyner, "Preliminary Cost Estimates for Corn Stover Collection", as a first phase of research intended to determine the price of corn stover necessary to produce a reliable supply of stover for energy creation.



David Widmar

At the 2011 Agricultural and Applied Economics Association annual meeting, David Widmar took second place in the Graduate Student Extension Competition that is sponsored by the Extension Section of the AAEA. Widmar developed and presented an Extension program as an offshoot from his MS thesis that he completed in April 2011. His advisor was Dr. Nicole Olynk.

Patrick Ward received an award from Purdue's Committee for the Education of Teaching Assistants (CETA). The award was made in recognition of his outstanding contribution as a graduate instructor.

### **Graduate Student Fellowships**

USDA National Needs Fellowship - Shellye Clark and Daniel Sanders  
Chappelle Fellowship - Renee Foltz  
USDA NIFA Fellowship - David Ortega  
Kruhe Fellowship - David Ortega  
SIGERT Fellowship - Eric O'Rear  
Andrews Fellowship- Elizabeth Dobis and Jeffrey Michler  
Bilsland Fellowship - Ce Wu

### **INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Frank Dooley has been named a Provost Fellow and will assume a part time role in the Office of the Provost working on administrative projects related to student success issues.

Craig Dobbins has been appointed as Associate Head, Undergraduate Programs.

Chris Hurt has been appointed as Extension Coordinator.

Faculty Service Awards: 40 Yrs – Gerald Harrison, 35 Yrs – Jay Akridge, Marshall Martin, 30 Yrs – Philip Abbott, Christopher Hurt, John Sanders, 15 Yrs – Gerald Shively

Faculty Promotions: Professor, H. Holly Wang, Associate Professor, Roman Keeney.

ICEE Executive Director, Harlan Day, has been elected to the national Board of Directors of the Council for Economic Education, based in New York City.

AP Promotions: Rank 6: Betty Jones-Bliss, Rank 4: Meghan Alexander, Megan Sheridan

AP Service Awards: 20 Yrs – Carol Wood, 15 Yrs – Alan Miller, Rob McDougall, 10 Yrs – Liza Braunlich

Marsha Pritchard received the Rose Award from the Mortar Board Society for Outstanding Service to Students. She received a Mortar Board serenade, a plaque and a dozen roses.



Marsha Pritchard

# DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

### **Jacob Ricker-Gilbert**

Jacob Ricker-Gilbert holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University. His M.S. is from Virginia Tech and his B.S. is from University of Vermont. Jacob's research and teaching activities are primarily related to economic growth and poverty reduction in developing countries. Jacob has a special interest in how technology, market access, and public policy affect peoples' decisions and well-being. He has international experience in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Jacob's dissertation research, evaluating the impact of fertilizer subsidies on small farmers in Malawi, won the 2009 T.W. Schultz award for best paper at the Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Agricultural Economics. His dissertation work was also recognized by the African Association of Agricultural Economists in 2010. Prior to his doctoral studies, Jacob worked as an agricultural economist at the Economic Research Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 2005 to 2007.



Jacob Ricker-Gilbert

### **Lee Stanish**

Lee Stanish is a project manager in the Center for Food and Agricultural Business. His primary responsibilities are business development, relationship management with key agribusiness clients and program/content development. Specifically, Lee focuses on establishing new custom program opportunities and selling the center's public programs. He assesses client needs, designs program content and aligns appropriate faculty resources, evaluates program effectiveness and executes marketing campaigns.



Lee Stanish

Lee joined the center after spending five years in Purdue's International Programs in Agriculture office. There he designed and coordinated international Extension education programs and research. Prior to academia, Lee worked in the agriculture industry for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Perdue Poultry and Farm Credit Services. He received his bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and his master's degree in agricultural education, both from Purdue University.

### **Monica Woods**

Monica Miller Woods joined Purdue University's Center for Global Trade Analysis as the Managing Director in April 2011. She is a graduate of Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana and holds an M.A. in Communications and a B.S. in Journalism/Public Relations. She earned a Certificate in Organizational Management from the University of Arizona, a six-year program co-produced by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and a certificate in fundraising principles from the Indiana University School of Philanthropy. From the Convention Liaison Council, she earned the Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) designation. She is a member of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and Meeting Professionals International (MPI). Monica's primary responsibilities at the Center for Global Trade Analysis include managing the day-to-day operations; maximizing graduate student, staff, volunteer and financial resources; creating new and enhancing existing strategic partnerships; and increasing local and global awareness through marketing, communication and outreach strategies. Previously, she was Executive Director for Alumni Relations at the



Monica Miller Woods

University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana. Monica has a son and daughter, and enjoys bicycling, hiking, ballroom dancing, traveling and fun times with family and friends.

## RETIREMENTS

### **Professor Robert Taylor**

Professor Robert (Bob) Taylor officially retired on his Golden Anniversary of his teaching career. During his celebration in the North Ballroom of the Purdue Memorial Union on April 22, 2011, he was presented with the Distinguished Hoosier Award by Joe Kelsey, the Director of the Indiana Department of Agriculture. Other speakers included Jay Akridge - Dean of Agriculture, Tim Sands - Provost, John Hardin - Purdue Board of Trustees, and Don Villwock - President of the Indiana Farm Bureau. Drs. Joan Fulton and Larry DeBoer from Agricultural Economics presented him with a quilt and an engraved plaque in recognition of his years of service.



Dr. Robert Taylor

Dr. Robert Taylor is a Purdue and Indiana icon. He has left his mark on thousands of families across the state. Since coming to Purdue in 1962, he taught over 40,000 students. Bob's teaching on the Purdue campus is legendary – he taught for almost one-half century and continued to walk into the classroom every day with the same passion and concern for the students as he did 50 years ago. He is not just recognized and admired by his students for his caring approach to challenging their thinking and stimulating them to learn, but also for his sincere interest in them as individuals with personal as well as professional aspirations. Through his dynamic classes and caring connection with the students, relationships were built that last a lifetime. Once students return to their home farm or other agri-businesses, they've continued to reach out to Bob for assistance.

## DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND HONORS

Professor Taylor taught undergraduates macroeconomics and farm management. He also offered a graduate seminar on teaching agricultural economics. As a part of his work with Purdue Bob lived in Brazil and taught farm management in Portuguese in both Brazil and Portugal. He was the faculty advisor for thirty undergraduate students, working with them from the time they were prospective students through job placement and as a mentor on the job. His extension efforts emphasized family farm business arrangements.

Bob Taylor has been recognized with multiple teaching awards by Purdue University and the Agricultural and Applied Economics profession. He received outstanding teacher awards from Purdue's School of Agriculture (1970, 1976), the Purdue Student Body (1970), Purdue University (1980), and the American Agricultural Economics Association (1970, 1980). He received the Purdue Outstanding Counselor Award in 1985, the Hovde Award of Excellence in Educational Service to Rural People of Indiana in 1991, was named to Purdue's Book of Great Teachers in 1999, and was named a Special Boilermaker by the Purdue Alumni Association in 2001. Other honors he received are: Fellow of the Purdue Teaching Academy (2004), Purdue University Cooperative Extension Specialists' Association Career Award for more than 20 years (2004), Panhellenic Association Outstanding Professor (2006), and the Ag Alumni Certificate of Distinction (2006). He and his wife, Anna, have four children, eleven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

To read more about Dr. Robert Taylor's life and career, the Summer 2011 edition of Purdue Agriculture Connections has an article and bonus video clip and photo gallery: [http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/connections/summer2011/07\\_alumniProfile.shtml](http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/connections/summer2011/07_alumniProfile.shtml)

*A truly meaningful way to honor the life and career of an individual who dedicated his life to Purdue and to education is to establish an endowment. The Department of Agricultural Economics is honoring Bob Taylor's dedication and commitment to Purdue, the College of Agriculture, and, most importantly, the current students and alumni by establishing the Robert Taylor Farm Management Excellence Fund. This endowment will enhance the teaching of undergraduate farm management and agricultural economics by providing faculty with resources to create unique experiences, providing resources for student-led clubs, establishing new and innovative course offerings, and supporting scholarships to outstanding undergraduates. His legacy will live on, and, through this endowment, he will continue to touch the lives of thousands of students. Contact the Agricultural Advancement Office for more information (800) 718-0094 or [agdevelopment@purdue.edu](mailto:agdevelopment@purdue.edu)*

### Professor John Connor

Professor John Connor was honored with a retirement reception on Thursday, May 5, 2011. Since 1983 a professor of Industrial Economics at Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Economics, Professor John Connor holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Boston College, an MA from the University of Florida, and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. From 1965 to 1968 he served as a volunteer in the U. S. Peace Corps teaching mathematics in two African nations. From 1976 to 1979 he was an Adjunct



Dr. John Connor

Professor at the University of Wisconsin, and from 1979 to 1983 he was Head of Food Manufacturing Research in the Economic Research Service of USDA.

Dr. Connor specialized in research and teaching of empirical industrial economics and antitrust policy. For 25 years he studied the market structure and performance of the food manufacturing and distribution industries; for the past 15 years the focus of his research has been international price-fixing cartels and world-wide antitrust enforcement. Connor is the author of 19 books and monographs and more than 600 other scholarly publications in economics and law. His publications are widely read. In March 2011, the Social Science Research Network reported on the number of downloads of working papers, preprints and offprints listed by 358,000 authors listed in SSRN. Connor had 11,241 downloads of his 58 papers, which ranked him 86th out of more than 11,000 economists in the SSRN repository. In addition, his research has been cited in more than 75 law-review articles and five court decisions.

His latest book, *Global Price Fixing*, received two national writing awards in 2002 and 2003. New editions of *Global Price Fixing* appeared in 2007 and 2008. A review of the book in the *Journal of Economic Literature* calls it:

“...an invaluable reference for those with a deep interest in the economics of cartels, and a very readable and accessible narrative...on international cartels.”

Dr. Connor is a Senior Advisor to the American Antitrust Institute, and he consults for government antitrust authorities and law firms in cartel cases. In 2009, his lifetime achievements were recognized when he was awarded the highest honor of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, the title of Fellow.



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

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Professor Emeritus, Paul Farris, shared this photo of a group of distinguished past members of the department taken on the Ag Econ Department's 75th anniversary in 1995. Among this group are former Department Heads and Deans at Purdue, Secretaries of Agriculture at USDA, and an Interim President of Purdue University. This level of service to the university and society challenges us all to get involved and be engaged in important work for agriculture and communities. Please visit our history page for more information about the department: <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/agecon/Pages/AboutUs.aspx>



Front: Carroll Bottum and Paul Farris  
Back: Lowell Hardin, Don Paarlberg, John Hicks, Richard Kohls, Earl Butz.