Presidential Note

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Plans for the annual meeting of the WAEA are underway. Bruce Godfrey, together with the Department of Economics at Utah State University are busy preparing for our meeting, to be held in Logan on July 8-11, 2001. Be sure to submit your selected paper proposal via email to Dawn Thilmany before the deadline on November 17, 2000. Dawn will notify you about the status of your submission in late February.

We are excited to announce an outstanding group of talented speakers who will be presenting invited papers at the annual meetings: Del Gardner, Brigham Young University; John Antle, Montana State University; Daniel Summer, University of California-Davis; Scott Rozelle, University of California-Davis; and David Ervin, Henry A. Wallace Center for Agricultural and Environmental Policy at Winrock International and Portland State University. I am sure that you will want to be there to hear these outstanding economists!

The WAEA is seeking qualified applicants for the Secretary/Treasurer position that will be vacated by Bruce Godfrey in December 2001. If you are interested in this interesting and rewarding office, please contact either Bruce Godfrey or myself. Our third newsletter in March will focus on the election of WAEA officers. Until then, I wish you well in your work as a professional agricultural economist! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have ideas, suggestions, or concerns about our association.

— Andy Barkley

We are currently working with the AAEA on the second Young Professionals Conference to be held June 11-14, 2001 in Keystone, Colorado. This conference will provide a great opportunity for recently-hired academics to learn from “seasoned veterans” about our profession, and how success can be achieved in agricultural economics. Please see the announcement in this newsletter.
Notices

Young Professionals Conference

The Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA), together with the AAEA, Farm Foundation, Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA), Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA), and the National Association of Agricultural Economics Administrators (NAAEA) is hosting a conference for agricultural economists in the early stages of their careers (assistant professors) to interact with established faculty members who have had success in teaching, research, and extension in the agricultural economics profession. The goal of the conference is "to provide early academic professionals a productive and innovative forum for planning and discussing career and professional development" by bringing them together with successful, experienced agricultural economists "to engage in a discussion on strategies to achieve success in our profession, our institutions, and in our personal lives."

Grants from the Farm Foundation and the AAEA Foundation will be used to fund travel grants to offset the cost of participation. The conference is set for June 12-14, 2001 in Keystone, Colorado.

For more information on the 2001 conference please contact Andrew Barkley at barkley@ksu.edu.

Call for Selected Paper Proposals

The Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA) seeks Selected Paper proposals for the WAEA meetings in Logan, Utah, July 8-11, 2001. Proposals for Selected Papers are limited to two pages in length and should include title, objectives, background, data and methods, results/expected results, and discussion.

Proposals must be submitted via e-mail no later than Friday, November 17, 2000. E-mail should be addressed to Dawn Thilmany, Colorado State University, thilmany@lamar.colostate.edu.

Detailed information regarding submission guidelines can be found at:
http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/thilmany/waea.htm.

Proposals must be submitted via e-mail no later than Friday, November 17, 2000. E-mail should be addressed to Dawn Thilmany, Colorado State University, thilmany@lamar.colostate.edu.

Call for Organized Paper Sessions

The Western Agricultural Economics Association is soliciting proposals for organized paper sessions at the WAEA meetings in Logan, Utah, July 8-11, 2001. An organizer will design a session around a common topic or theme. Organizers are encouraged to develop sessions with a mix of young scholars with new ideas and older, more seasoned professionals to foster a mutually beneficial exchange. A session usually includes a chairperson, three papers, and two discussants with at least one discussant assigned to comment on each paper. Other formats might also be used. Session proposals are limited to two pages in length and should include session title, paper titles, names and addresses of all participants, and a brief justification of the importance of the session theme. Detailed guidelines for organized paper sessions can be found at:
http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/thilmany/waea.htm.
NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

Nominations are solicited for the following awards that will be presented at the WAEA Annual Meeting in Logan, Utah. The awards program is under the leadership of Gary Brester, Montana State University, who is serving as the 2000-2001 Chair of the WAEA Awards Committee. All award mailings must be postmarked by March 16, 2001.

1. Graduate Paper or Master's Thesis Award

Purpose of Award:

To recognize outstanding research by graduate students in WAEA institutions

Nature of the Award:

The award will be called "Outstanding Graduate Paper or Thesis Award for the Western Agricultural Economics Association." This award will be made annually at the WAEA meeting. The winner will receive a certificate and a $100 check.

Eligibility Requirements:

Nominees must have completed the master's degree at a WAEA institution during 2000. Only thesis or graduate papers bearing a 2000 completion date may be submitted from a WAEA institution.

Evaluation criteria:

1) Importance of the problem or topic
2) Significance of the results
3) Quality of the work
4) Effectiveness of reporting.

Procedures:

Three copies of each thesis or graduate paper will be sent to the chair of the selection committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to the nominees or nominators. Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2001:
Paul Patterson, Chair
Morrison School of Agricultural and Resource Management
7001 E. Williams Field Road
Arizona State University
Mesa, AZ 85212-0900

Voice: (480) 727-1124
Fax: (480) 727-1961
Email: paul.patterson@asu.edu
Undergraduate Teaching Awards

Purpose of Award:

To recognize outstanding teaching of students and related activities by members of the association.

Nature of Awards:

Two awards may be given. (1) The first shall be called "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with less than 10 years experience". The second will be called "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with more than 10 years experience". The winner(s) will receive a certificate(s). This award will be made annually at the WAEA meeting.

Eligibility Requirements:

Nominees must be members of the Association and be actively involved in teaching and related activities. Previous award winners are not eligible for the same award.

Evaluation Criteria:

(1) Personal interest in and availability to students,
(2) Mastery of subject matter (course content),
(3) Creativity in designing and using innovative teaching methods,
(4) Impact on learning, based on student and peer evaluation, and
(5) Impact on departmental teaching program.

Procedures:

(1) Nominations may be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
(2) Nomination Packet. The nominator should submit a letter of recommendation, supplementary tables and supporting items if desired. The letter of nomination should summarize the teaching accomplishments of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above. The nomination letter is limited to no more than three pages (single spaced). Summary tables may be added to provide supplemental and supporting data. A maximum of three supporting items (letter of recommendation, publications, videos, etc.) may also be included. Each letter, publication, video, etc. counts as one item.
(3) Five copies of all materials shall be sent to the chair of the awards committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to nominees or nominators.
(4) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2001:
Molly Espey, Chair
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
237 Barre
Clemson University
Clemson, SC 29634

Voice: (864) 656-6401
Fax: (864) 656-5776
Email: mespey@clemson.edu
Extension Program Awards

Purpose of Awards:

To recognize outstanding extension programs by members of the Association.

Nature of Awards:

Two awards may be given annually.
1) The first shall be called the "Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Project". This award shall be given to programs that are of less than or equal to five years duration.
2) The second shall be called "Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Career". This award shall be given to programs that are of more than five years duration.
3) These awards may be made annually at the WAEA meeting.
4) The winner(s) will receive a certificate.

Eligibility requirements:

Nominee(s) must be actively involved in programs of informal education for audiences external to the university. The program may be that of either an individual or a group of individuals working as a team. If given to a team, at least one member of the team must be a member of the Association. If given to an individual, the winner must be a member.

Evaluation Criteria:

1) Importance of the problem or subject,
2) Cost effectiveness of the program,
3) Appropriateness of the economic analysis,
4) Effectiveness of communication methods, and
5) Evidence of accomplishments of objectives and positive impact on target audience(s).

Procedures:

1) Nominations must be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
2) Nomination Packet. The nominator should submit a letter of recommendation, supplementary tables and supporting items if desired. The letter of nomination should summarize the accomplishments of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above. The nomination letter is limited to no more than three pages (single space). Summary tables may be added to provide supplemental and supporting data. A maximum of three supporting items (letters of recommendation, publications, videos, etc.) may also be included. Each letter, publication, video, etc. counts as one item.
3) Five copies of all materials shall be sent to the chair of the awards committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to nominees or nominators.
4) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.
Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2001:
Karen Klonsky, Chair
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
University of California, Davis
Davis, CA 95616
Voice: (530) 752-3563
Fax: (330) 752-5614
Email: klonsky@primal.ucdavis.edu

Published Research Award:

Purpose of Award:

To recognize outstanding research by members of the Association.

Nature of the Award:

The award will be called "Outstanding Published Research Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association". This award shall be made annually at the WAEA meeting. The winner(s) will receive a certificate.

Eligibility Requirements:

At least one of the authors must be a member of the Association in the year the paper was published. Only research reports bearing a 2000 publication date will be considered. Textbooks will not be considered published research for purpose of this award.

Eligibility Criteria:

1) Importance and significance of the results,
2) Quality of the work, and
3) Effectiveness of reporting.

Procedure:

1) Nominations must be made by WAEA members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
2) Five copies of each publication will be sent to the chair of the selection committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to nominees or nominators.
3) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2001:
Vincent Smith, Chair
Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics
306 Linfield Hall
P.O. Box 172920
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717-2920
Voice: (406) 994-5615
Fax: (406) 994-4838
Email: uaevs@montana.edu