I am happy to report on a number of positive developments for the WAEA. To begin, let me assure WAEA members that our association is in a very strong financial condition. We continue to generate a budget surplus due, mostly, to our healthy journal and Secretary-Treasurer office. As a result, we are expanding services to members, as noted below.

The 2002 annual meeting to be held jointly with the AAEA July 28-31 in Long Beach, California will be big. We have space to accept more Selected Papers than in past years, so make sure to submit your work! Look for the calls for selected and organized paper sessions on the WAEA webpage. The deadline for submission of proposals is January 15, 2002. Also, consider applying for, or nominating someone else for, one of the WAEA awards.

Beginning in 2002, the WAEA will offer a limited number of Graduate Student Travel Grants to enable students to attend the annual meeting. Details are available on the WAEA webpage, but students presenting a paper at the meeting will be given priority in the selection process. Another change includes an automatic Travel Grant to the M.S. Thesis award winner in addition to a cash prize of $500.

Beginning in 2003, our journal, JARE, will be published in three issues each year instead of just two. The tentative publication dates in the new schedule will be April, August, and December of each year. Also, the new program to pay JARE reviewers for quick responses is working, thus quick editorial feedback can be expected. So, keep the JARE in mind as a publication outlet for your work.

The Executive Committee approved the creation of a WAEA Fellows award to be initiated in 2003. I will work with an ad hoc committee to develop this new award. Send any suggestions about the award criteria and selection process to me.

The Executive Committee also approved a possible subcontract between the AAEA Business Office and WAEA, to be negotiated by in-coming WAEA Secretary-Treasurer Dawn Thilmany. This contract will likely allow AAEA to do some administrative functions for WAEA, such as JARE subscriptions and the creation of a WAEA membership directory. The web-based directory, in particular, will be a valuable service that should be available to WAEA members beginning some time in 2002.

Other new services coming to our members include an expansion of the WAEA newsletter during 2002, online JARE publication farther down the line, and various items still being discussed. If there are products or services you would like to suggest, please contact any member of the Executive Committee. We are always happy to hear from members.

— Steve Blank
Notices

Call for Selected Paper Proposals

The Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA) seeks Selected Paper proposals for the WAEA meetings in Long Beach, California, July 28-31, 2002. Proposals on any aspect of agricultural or resource economics are welcomed. Previously presented papers are not eligible and the presenting author must be a member of WAEA. An individual may be the sole or senior author of only one proposal, but may be a junior author on any number of proposals.

Proposals must be submitted via e-mail as an attached Word, WordPerfect, or PDF file no later than Tuesday, January 15, 2002. Details concerning the format and subject matter codes are available on the WAEA Website (www.WAEAonline.org).

Senior authors will be notified by e-mail confirming receipt of their submissions. Senior authors will be notified by March 15, 2002, of acceptance or rejection of their proposal.

For those with accepted papers, please submit a final copy of your paper as an attachment to an e-mail by July 20, 2002, to Dillon Feuz at dfeuz@unl.edu. In the e-mail subject line please type “WAEA selected paper.” The final paper should not exceed 20 pages, doubled spaced, in total length. Papers will be posted on the web for electronic access. PDF attached files are preferred. If your file attachment is in Word or WordPerfect format, there is no guarantee as to its final appearance on the web.

Graduate Travel Fellowships

Funds are available for graduate students to partially defray the direct travel costs of attending the WAEA Annual meetings. Preference will be given to those involved in the annual meeting or Awards program.

Fellowships are awarded to graduate students who are current members of the WAEA who have scholarly and leadership potential in the field and association. A one-page application (see WAEA Website) must be filled out and mailed to:

Dr. Jill McCluskey
Department of Agricultural Economics
Washington State University
Pullman WA 99164-6210

JARE Editors Being Sought

Gary Thompson and his team of associate editors, for the Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE) will complete their terms with the December 2003 issue. A new editor needs to be appointed in 2002 or early 2003. Persons interested in serving as JARE Editor should contact Steve Blank (sblank@primal.ucdavis.edu) or Ray Huffaker (huffaker@wsu.edu).

Dues Notice

Some of you have renewed your membership for 2002 either through Bruce or AAEA. If so, we thank you for your continued support. A copy of the 2002 membership application and dues notice is enclosed with this issue of NewsNotes. Payment for 2002 dues should be sent to Secretary-Treasurer Dawn Thilmany. If you have any questions concerning the status of your membership, please contact Dawn at thilmany@lamar.colostate.edu.
NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

Nominations are solicited for the following awards that will be presented at the WAEA Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California. The awards program is under the leadership of Vincent Smith, Montana State University, who is serving as the 2001-2002 Chair of the WAEA Awards Committee. All award mailings must be postmarked by March 16, 2002.

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 $500 check and a travel grant to help defray the cost of attending the annual meeting.

Eligibility Requirements:
Nominees must have completed the master's degree at a WAEA institution during 2001. Only thesis or graduate papers bearing a 2001 completion date may be submitted from a WAEA institution. Only one paper or thesis may be submitted from an institution. Ph.D. dissertations are not eligible.

Evaluation criteria:
- Importance of the problem or topic
- Significance of the results
- Quality of the work
- Effectiveness of reporting

Procedures:
Five 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, 2002:
David Buschena
Department of Ag Economics and Economics
306 Linfield Hall
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana  59717
Voice: (406) 994-5623
Fax: (406) 994-4838
Email: buschena@montana.edu
Undergraduate Teaching Awards

Purpose of Award:
To recognize outstanding teaching of students and related activities by members of the association. The award may be made annually at the WAEA meeting.

Nature of Awards:
Two awards may be given. The first is the "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with less than 10 years experience". The second is the "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with more than 10 years experience". Each winner will receive a certificate.

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:
• Personal interest in and availability to students,
• Mastery of subject matter (course content),
• Creativity in designing and using innovative teaching methods,
• Impact on learning, based on student and peer evaluation, and
• Impact on departmental teaching program

Procedures:
Nominations may be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. The nominator should submit a Nomination Packet including a letter of recommendation, supplementary tables and supporting items if desired. The letter of nomination, limited to three pages single spaced, should summarize the teaching accomplishments of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above. 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. Send five copies of all materials to the chair of the awards committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to nominees or nominators. Selection of winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2002:
Cinda R. Clary
Department of Ag Econ and Ag Business
Box 30003 MSC 3196
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-8003

Voice: (505) 646-2524
Fax: (505) 646-3808
Email: cclary@nmsu.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. The “Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Project” is given to programs that are of less than or equal to five years duration. The "Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Career" is given to programs that are of more than five years duration. These awards may be made annually at the WAEA meeting. Winners 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:
- Importance of the problem or subject,
- Overall effectiveness of the program,
- Appropriateness of the economic analysis,
- Effectiveness of communication methods, and
- Evidence of accomplishments of objectives and positive impact on target audience.

Procedures:
Nominations must be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. The nominator should submit a nomination packet, including a letter of recommendation, supplementary tables and supporting items if desired. The letter of nomination, which is limited to no more than three pages single spaced, should summarize the accomplishments of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above. 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. Send each of five copies of all materials in a self-contained binder/folder/envelope to the chair of the awards committee. All nomination materials become WAEA property and will not be returned to nominees or nominators. Selection of the winners will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2002:
George Frisvold
AREC Department
Econ Building 23
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721-0023
Voice: (520) 621-
Fax: (520) 621-6250
Email: frisvold@ag.arizona.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 may 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 2001 publication date will be considered. Textbooks will not be considered published research for purpose of this award. Articles published in JARE are not eligible.

Eligibility Criteria:

• Importance and significance of the results,
• Quality of the work, and
• Effectiveness of reporting

Procedure:

Nominations must be made by WAEA members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. 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. Selection of winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Nominations should be sent to the following address by March 16, 2002:
Barry K. Goodwin
Department of Ag Economics
229 Ag Administration Building, 2120 Fyffe Road
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio 43210
Voice: (614) 688-4138
Fax: (614) 292-4749
Email: bgoodw@columbus.rr.com