Our summer meeting in Banff is fast approaching. I appreciate all who took the time to submit a paper or nominate a colleague for an award. Registration is being conducted through the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society at http://caes.usask.ca/conferences/annual_meetings/2011_banff/registration.php. Registration is somewhat more expensive this year, but it includes a meal plan (two breakfasts, two lunches, and all day refreshments) along with the reception and the Annual Awards Banquet. Please note that there is a significant discount for advanced registration. This will allow us to get a sufficient attendee count to adjust some numbers with the Banff Centre. Motel reservations can be made at http://www.banffcentre.ca/conference_registration/2011/CAE1106/. Remember, you will need a passport for Canadian travel and you may want to check the travel status of international students that are planning on attending the meetings. We want the Banff experience to be positive for all.

The annual meeting will begin on Wednesday, June 29 with a Plenary Session at 4:30 p.m. The joint CAES/WAEA keynote address will be given at that time by Mark W. Rosegrant, Director, Environment and Production Technology Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Dr. Rosegrant will address the topic “Global Energy Demand: Challenges for North American Agriculture and Implications for Global Food Security.” The WAEA Presidential address will be given by President Elect Russell Tronstad on Thursday morning, followed by the WAEA Keynote Address by Joseph Glauber, Chief Economist at the United States Department of Agriculture, titled “U.S. Agricultural Policy and the WTO.”

I want to again thank Mike Boland for his service to the association as he continues to work on the incorporation of the WAEA. Currently, the IRS is processing our request for tax exempt status and we are awaiting an affirmative reply.

Please pay particular attention to the Call for Editors in the JARE report. Gary Brester and his outstanding editorial team will relinquish the JARE editorial responsibilities April 2012.

Hope to see you in Banff!

President, WAEA
CALL FOR DEPARTMENT OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2011

Purpose of Award: To recognize outstanding undergraduate seniors who have achieved excellence in their academic achievements and of whom much is expected of their future contributions to agricultural, resource, and/or environmental economics in the Western states.

Nature of the Award: The awards will be called "Outstanding Senior Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association." These awards shall be distributed annually by the WAEA to department contacts, who shall distribute to selected students. The winner(s) will receive a certificate, 1-yr WAEA membership (including only the WEF publication not the JARE). All recipient names and institutions will be included in the WAEA Awards program and posted in the WAEA website.

Eligibility Requirements: One senior standing student may be selected by each degree granting institution in the nineteen western states of the United States (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) and four western provinces of Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan).

Eligibility Criteria: Decisions are made by individual departments.

Procedure: Selected student names and department contact information should be emailed to the WAEA President. Certificates and journals are mailed to the Department not to the student. Send selected student information to: Dr. Larry Van Tassell, email: lvantassell2@unl.edu. Award certificates will be sent to each department upon receipt of the nomination.
We had 245 submissions for consideration as a selected paper at our upcoming meeting in Banff. Submissions from WAEA and CAES members were nearly equal in proportion. The review process is well underway thanks to the hard work of the respective committee members. Our goal is to have submitters notified of final decisions regarding potential acceptance by the middle of March.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Bastian and Brady Deaton  
Co-chairs, Selected Papers

Western Economics Forum Update

WEF is now taking manuscripts to review for the spring/summer issue. Send 3500 word manuscripts to Don McLeod, editor (dmcleod@uwyo.edu). Please see http://waeaonline.org/waeawef.htm for submission details.

The fall/winter 2010 issue pertains to water topics in the West and will be available soon.

Donald M. McLeod  
Editor - Western Economics Forum
News From The JARE Editorial Team

We hope you enjoyed the December 2010 issue of JARE. Our team is currently busy on the final details for the April 2011 issue and working on papers for the August 2011 issue. The April issue will feature two articles related to food consumption issues, several papers addressing futures and options market performance, two resource-oriented papers, and several articles that address a variety of farm management/crop insurance topics.

The Editorial Team is truly appreciative of the efforts provided by our Editorial Council. In some cases, editorial councils are essentially figureheads. In our case, however, we ask our Editorial Council for help on a regular basis. Not only do these dedicated people provide the usual number of reviews as others in our profession, but we often ask them for expedited reviews in cases where submissions have lingered. In addition, we frequently ask members to evaluate the suitability of papers prior to deciding on entering them into a formal review process. Finally, Editorial Council members help the Editorial Team make decisions in cases where reviewers have differing opinions on the potential contribution of papers to JARE. Although the members of our Editorial Council are listed on the inside cover of each JARE issue, we want to express our appreciation by also naming them in this note:


Over the next 12 months, the WAEA will be seeking proposals for the next JARE editorial team. We would be happy to visit with anyone who may be considering accepting a leadership role in this important scholarly activity.

Finally, the quality of JARE is highly dependent on the quality of submitted manuscripts. We hope each of you considers JARE to be your primary research outlet. Positive and timely responses from talented (and busy) individuals to our review requests are a tribute to the scholarly mission of our profession. Please contact us if you have questions or comments regarding the publication of JARE.

Sincerely,

Gary Brester, Managing Editor (2010-2012)
Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics