

A panoramic photograph of the Maroon Bells mountain range in Colorado. The scene is captured during a summer sunrise, with the sky filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and purple. The mountains are rugged and rocky, with patches of snow or light-colored rock visible. The foreground is dominated by a dense forest of evergreen trees, which are reflected in a calm body of water at the bottom of the frame. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

# Western Agricultural Economics Association

## 2014 Awards Program

Colorado Springs, Colorado

June 24, 2014

## 2014 WAEA Awards Ceremony

Welcome .....James Richardson, President  
Presentations  
Awards .....Jay Noel and Kellie Raper, Awards Co-Chairs  
Graduate Paper Competition Winner ..... Russell Tronstad  
JARE Awards ..... Christopher McIntosh, JARE Editor  
Distinguished Scholar Awards .....James Richardson  
Closing .....James Richardson

### Outstanding Published Research Award

**Darlington Sabasi, Christopher T. Bastian, Dale Menkhaus, and Owen Phillips.** “Committed Procurement in Privately Negotiated Markets: Evidence from Laboratory Markets.” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 95(5):1122-1135. 2013.

### Outstanding Extension Program Award for Project

**The Oklahoma Quality Beef Network Team**  
*Oklahoma State University*

**Eric DeVuyst**, Professor, Agricultural Economics

**Damona Doye**, Regents Professor and Extension Economist,  
Agricultural Economics

**Derrell Peel**, Professor, Agricultural Economics and  
Charles Breedlove Professorship, Agribusiness

**Kellie Raper**, Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics

**Gant Mourer**, Value Added Beef Assistant Extension Specialist,  
Animal Science

**David Lalman**, Professor, Animal Science

**Chris Richards**, Associate Professor, Animal Science

**Megan Rolf**, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

**Daniel Stein**, Assistant Professor, Animal Science

**D.L. Step**, Professor, Veterinary Medicine

**Justin Talley**, Associate Professor, Entomology

### Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, More Than 10 Years Experience

**Marshall Frasier**, Colorado State University

### Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, Less Than 10 Years Experience

**Dannele Peck**, University of Wyoming

### Outstanding Published Graduate Student or M.S. Thesis Award

**Amy Hilland**, University of Idaho. “Implications of the Yuan-Dollar Exchange Rate and Commodity Trade Between China, the United States, and Competitors.”

Major Professor: **Stephen Devadoss**

*Honorable Mention:* **Jeremy Pagarán**, Arizona State University.

“Innovative Insurance Products in Food Safety: Pricing Revenue Insurance in the Fresh Spinach Industry.”

Major Professor: **Mark Manfredo**

### WAEA Graduate Student Paper/Presentation Competition

*1st place:* Alex Hlavinka, Texas A&M University, “The Adoption of Ductless Heat Pumps in the Pacific Northwest.” co-authors with James Mjelds, Texas A&M University; Senarath Dharmasena, Texas A&M University; and Christine Jerko-Holland, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.

*2nd place:* Yang Xie, University of California, Berkeley, “The Economics of Water Project Capacities, Water Inventory Management, and Conservation Technology Adoption.” co-author with David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley.

*3rd place:* Allison Bauman, “Modeling Welfare Outcomes of Water Markets with Transaction Costs: An Agent-based Modeling Approach.” co-authors with Christopher Goemans, Colorado State University; James Pritchett, Colorado State University; Travis Warziniack, US Forest Service; and Dawn Thilmany McFadden, Colorado State University.

### JARE Outstanding Journal Article Award

**Chenguang Li and Richard J. Sexton**, 2013. “Grocery-Retailer Pricing Behavior with Implications for Farmer Welfare.”

*Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 38(2):141-158.

### JARE Outstanding Journal Reviewer Award

**Jesse Tack**, Mississippi State University



## Distinguished Scholar

Francis Epplin  
Oklahoma State University



Francis Epplin is Professor and Jean and Patsy Neustadt Chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University. He received a B.S. in agricultural education from Southern Illinois University. After a tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Vietnam, he earned an M.S. in agricultural industries from Southern Illinois University and served for two years as an instructor in the Department of Agriculture at Western Illinois University. He then began a Ph.D. program at Iowa State University where he had the privilege of working under the direction of Earl O. Heady. He has been

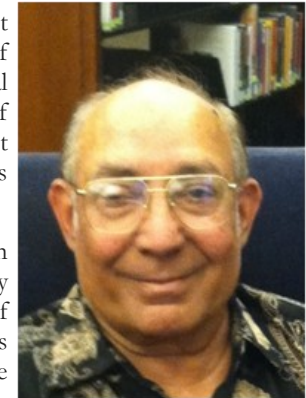
at Oklahoma State University since 1979. He has had the good fortune to work at a Land Grant University and with a number of talented and dedicated scientists and students.

Dr. Epplin's research contributions in traditional crop and livestock production and in biofuels production are recognized both within and well beyond the walls of his discipline. Nearly all of his grants are collaborative across academic departments, a strong indicator of his excellent research record and broadly recognized scholarly contributions. He has co-authored journal articles with more than twenty agronomists, and with animal scientists, engineers, entomologists, and graduate students. Francis has presented invited papers on the economics of biofuel production at prestigious conferences sponsored by the National Science Foundation and by the Foreign Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. He is often the only economist on the program, reiterating the respect that colleagues outside of his discipline have for him.

Extension colleagues value Dr. Epplin's work in biofuel feedstock production and processing and wheat pasture research. Dr. Epplin's research also enhances his graduate teaching, as evidenced by student evaluation scores never below 3.6/4.0 and his mentoring relationship with students long after they complete his class. Dr. Francis Epplin has developed an exemplary multidisciplinary research program that contributes to all three legs of the Land Grant triangle.

## Distinguished Scholar

Chennat Gopalakrishnan  
University of Hawaii at Manoa



Chennat Gopalakrishnan (Gopal) spent 41 years with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa prior to his retirement in 2010. He remains an emeritus professor with the university.

Gopal is best known for his research on water economics and policy, particularly for advancing our understanding of water management institutions. He is one of the leading figures in the institutional analysis of the water sector.

In recognition of Gopal's scholarship, he was named a Fellow of both the International Water Resources Association (2008) and the American Water Resources Association (2003).

Gopal is a prolific scholar, having produced seven books, nearly 70 refereed publications, 68 conference papers, and numerous other reports and reviews. While the bulk of his writings focused on water institutions, this is by no means his only area of contribution. Within the water resources field, he has also published many empirical studies addressing a diverse set of topics including sustainable water resource management, water conservation, political externalities, water conflicts and their resolution, and, most recently, water and disasters. Earlier in his career, Gopal made notable contributions to the field of energy economics and marine economics.

For his research, teaching, and mentoring contributions, Gopal was honored by his College in 2009 with the Excellence in Research Award, and in 2003 with the Ka Pouhana (Mentor) Award. He has also chaired and served as a member of numerous PhD and Master's committees.

In his retirement, Gopal continues to be active in his field. He launched a new journal, the *Journal of Natural Resources Policy Research* (Routledge) in 2009. He is, currently, at work on two books, one on "institutional entropy" and a second one on the theory and empirics of water disaster management policies.

## Graduate Travel Grant Recipients

Yang Xie, University of California, Berkeley  
Zoe T. Plakias, University of California-Davis  
Allison Bauman, Colorado State University  
Marzieh Motallebi, Colorado State University  
Mahalingam Dhamodharan, University of Idaho  
Rosemary Isoto, Ohio State University  
Rebecca Davis, University of Tennessee  
Gnel Gabrielyan, Washington State University  
Tristan D. Skolrud, Washington State University  
Choong Kim, University of Wyoming

## Outstanding Seniors

Tristan Hannon, Washington State University  
Mason Parish, Texas A&M University  
Kaycee Royer, University of Idaho  
Perry Baptista, University of Wyoming  
Brock Burnick, Kansas State University  
Cody Swainston, Utah State University  
Jordan Gottinger, University of Saskatchewan  
Brette Gebers, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Briana Tanaka, Oregon State University  
Jedediah Winter, Colorado State University  
Adrienne Bradley, University of California-Davis  
Seth Boone, Oklahoma State University

## Special Thanks to Awards Committee Chairs and Members

### *Award Chairs*

Jay Noel, California Polytechnic State University  
Kellie Curry Raper, Oklahoma State University

### *Outstanding Published Research Award*

Wade Brorsen (Chair), Oklahoma State University  
Steve Koontz, Colorado State University  
Jon Biermacher, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

### *Outstanding Extension Program Awards*

David Anderson (Chair), Texas A&M University  
Levi Russell, Texas A&M University  
Steven Klose, Texas A&M University

### *Undergraduate Teaching Awards*

Lynn Hamilton (Chair), California Polytechnic State University  
Lindsey Higgins, California Polytechnic State University

### *Outstanding Published Graduate Student or MS Thesis Award*

Gary Brester (Chair), Montana State University  
Mykel Taylor, Kansas State University  
Vicky Salin, Texas A&M University  
Greg McKee, North Dakota State University  
Michael McCullough, California Polytechnic State University

### *Distinguished Scholar Award Selection Committee*

Greg Perry (Chair), Colorado State University  
Jug Capps, Texas A&M University  
Doug Young, Washington State University  
Bonnie Colby, University of Arizona  
Lynn Hamilton, California Polytechnic State University  
Greg McKee, North Dakota State University  
Dannele Peck, University of Wyoming

### *JARE Awards*

Christopher McIntosh (Editor), University of Idaho  
Larry Makus (Co-Editor), University of Idaho  
Hayley Chouinard (Co-Editor), Washington State University  
Gregmar Galinato (Co-Editor), Washington State University

### *WAEA Graduate Paper/Presentation Awards Committee*

Russell Tronstad (Chair), University of Arizona  
Mechel Paggi, California State University-Fresno  
Jeff Peterson, Kansas State University