



NEWSNOTES

WINTER 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that everyone had a terrific holiday season, and that 2007 is already shaping up to be prosperous and rewarding. Your *WAEA* officers and other volunteers have been busy organizing our Annual Meeting in Portland and managing several other issues. I appreciate the efforts of Ruby Ward and Clem Ward who are managing the award nominations. Also, Mike Boland worked closely with the *AAEA* to solicit, organize, and review selected papers. I have been developing schedules for the *WAEA* Organized Symposia, Business Meeting, Awards Program, Keynote Address, and Presidential Address. Four Organized Symposia have been arranged. Mary Muth is organizing an industry-related symposium pertaining to the recently completed USDA GIPSA meat marketing study. Myles Watts is organizing a symposium around western land-use issues. Vince Smith (2007 Farm Bill) and Dave Buschena (China and agricultural trade) are also organizing symposia.

It has been a pleasure working with *AAEA*'s new Executive Director,

Terri Hafner, on plans for the meeting. John Hewlett continues to provide excellence in managing the *WAEA* website. And, a special thanks to Rhonda Skaggs who has completed her tenure as editor of the *Western Economics Forum*.

I want to thank those who took the time to cast ballots for 2007-2008 officers. Congratulations to the new President-Elect – Penny Diebel, Vice-President – Russ Tronstad, and Directors – Chris Bastian and Jayson Lusk. I have the good fortune of knowing each of these future officers personally. The Association will be in good hands.

Furthermore, we appreciate everyone who agreed to run for a *WAEA* leadership position. I suspect that most members were like me in that they found it very difficult to choose from such an outstanding group of candidates. We are indeed fortunate to have such great choices and talent in the *WAEA*.

The Executive Council participated in a conference call in December and discussed several issues. Thanks

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IMPORTANT DATES:

AAEA ANNUAL MEETING
FREE REGISTRATION DRAWING DEADLINE:
MAY 25, 2007

AAEA/WAEA ANNUAL MEETING EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
JULY 3, 2007

AAEA/WAEA ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
JULY 3, 2007

WAEA ANNUAL MEETING:
JULY 29—AUGUST 1, 2007

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to all who participated in our membership survey. Your responses were instrumental in guiding several decisions. Please take a few minutes and review the survey results that have been posted on the *WAEA* website. The survey clearly indicated membership support for subsidizing graduate student travel to our annual meetings. We have allocated a total of \$5,000 for graduate student travel scholarships for 2007. This Newsletter includes a form for graduate student travel scholarship applications (an electronic version is available on the *WAEA* website). Graduate student travel applications will be evaluated by two *WAEA* Directors -- Bailey Norwood and Jeff Peterson. Applications must be submitted by March 16, 2007. Mike Boland has suggested that travel scholarship recipients be more visible during *WAEA* Annual Meetings. Therefore, he will integrate scholarship recipients into the *WAEA* Selected Paper sessions by asking them to serve as session moderators. This is a terrific way for graduate students to be more involved in our annual meetings, develop their communication skills, and expand both employment and graduate school contacts.

The Executive Council increased institutional fees for the *JARE* to \$125 for domestic subscribers (\$130 for international subscribers). This brings our fees somewhat in line with those of comparable journals, although we still remain on the lower end of most institutional fees. We eliminated the \$50 payment for on-time *JARE* reviews for cost-control reasons.

The Council also launched a search for a new editor of the *Western Economics Forum*. However, we decided that future *WEF* issues would be

published only in an electronic format to reduce direct expenditures. I sent an email to all *WAEA* members that contained a Call for Editor in December 2006. Unfortunately, I did not receive any proposals. Therefore, unless someone expresses an interest in this position, the *WEF* will not be published in the future.

The *AAEA* has decided to change their business office model. This could have repercussions for the *WAEA* because we contract with *AAEA* for a variety of business office services. However, we continue to have great dialogue and discussions with *AAEA* regarding the provision of future services. We will address any potential changes in our business service arrangements with the *AAEA* at the *WAEA* Business Meeting in Portland.

Finally, some members found that their December 2006 issue of *JARE* had several missing pages. DeeVon Bailey and Dave Lambert worked closely with our publisher (Sheridan Press) to resolve this issue. Sheridan Press decided to reprint the issue and send new copies to all members at no cost to *WAEA*. We appreciate the professionalism, courtesy, and publishing services provided by Sheridan Press.

My next, and final correspondence as President, will occur this Spring. The Spring Newsletter will announce the program schedule for the Portland meetings, registration materials, and in a departure from tradition, *WAEA* Award recipients so that each can better plan their attendance at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Please contact me if you have questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the direction of the *WAEA*.



***JARE* UPDATE**

Manuscripts submitted to the *JARE*Online website after April 1, 2006 became the responsibility of the new editorial team (David Lambert, George Davis, and Doug Larson). Since April 1st, the team has managed 130 manuscripts. New submissions totaled 113, with the remainder being transferred from the previous editors.

As of February 6, 2007, the new editors had accepted 11 manuscripts, 36 were still in the review process, 52 had been rejected, 14 had been rejected with an option to revise and resubmit, and 16 manuscripts had been resubmitted.

Twelve papers will appear in the April 2007 issue of *JARE*, seven of which were accepted by the former editors.

The *WAEA* signed a contract with EBSCO Publishing last summer to post *JARE* on the EBSCO Research Database. Progress has been slow, but EBSCO should now have electronic copies of all *JARE* articles for the last ten years. Being a part of the EBSCO database will increase access to articles in *JARE* for the thousands of EBSCO institutional members around the world.

Changes at AgEcon Search, the electronic depository of applied economics papers maintained at the University of Minnesota, will further increase access to *JARE* articles.

Every article published in *JARE* (or the *Western Journal of Agricultural Economics* prior to 1992) is maintained on the AgEcon Search system. Newly installed software on the University of Minnesota site will allow users of Google Scholar to click on and directly open *JARE* articles appearing as a result of Google searches. This should have a positive effect on the Impact Index for the Journal.

Finally, several changes were instituted in *JARE*'s operations as a result of member responses to last fall's *WAEA* survey. First, the \$50 incentive payment to encourage reviewers to complete reviews within 42 days was eliminated. This will save the Association \$5,000-\$6,000 per year, with minimal effects on review times. Second, institutional subscriptions to *JARE* were increased from \$75 to \$125, still below the averages of \$200-300 charged by other regional and national associations. Third, individual memberships to *WAEA* (which include a *JARE* subscription), will continue to be \$25 for 2007 and page charges remain unchanged. A discussion of future funding of the *JARE* (e.g., the use of submission fees) may be an agenda item at the 2007 *WAEA* Business Meeting.

***WAEA* SELECTED PAPERS REPORT**

The *WAEA* received 80 paper selected paper submissions for the 2007 Annual Meeting in Portland. Forty-five papers were accepted. Authors will soon be notified regarding the disposition of their submissions. The Selected Papers program will be printed in the *WAEA* Spring News-

letter. The Association appreciates the time and talent provided by the 44 Selected Paper reviewers. The Selected Papers program cannot happen without your efforts.

Western Agricultural Economics Association

Graduate Travel Scholarship Application

Application Deadline is: March 16, 2007Note: **Award Recipients Must Be WAEA Members By July 29, 2007**

Name: Phone: Fax:

*(last, first, middle initial)**(###) ###-####**(###) ###-####*

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

WAEA Member? Yes NoOn 2007 WAEA Program? Yes NoPresenting Paper? Yes NoReceiving Award? Yes No

Estimated Travel Costs: Airfare \$

Hotel \$

Education: (Optional: Include a recent C.V. in place of this section)

College and Graduate Schools

Graduation

(Most recent first)

Month/Year

Degree

Major Field

GPA

Briefly list leadership and service activities involved in during graduate studies:

Briefly describe current research and/or employment:

Briefly describe your career goals after completion of your degree:

Briefly describe your professional development goals as they relate to attendance at the meetings:

Submit application by e-mail (preferred) or mail to Dr. Bailey Norwood: bailey_norwood@okstate.edu

Department of Agricultural Economics, Oklahoma State University

426 Agricultural Hall

Stillwater, OK 74078