

WAEA NEWS

Fall 2011



President's Message

Our annual meeting in Banff was a great success thanks to the help of many WAEA members and our colleagues with the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society (CAES). A total of 260 individuals attended, with 122 registered as associated with the WAEA, 124 CAES, and 14 from other groups. Many members from both associations helped to make this a first-class conference. The spectacular views out of each conference room and the "cafeteria" were a reminder as to why The Banff Centre is such a sought-after facility. Our upcoming annual meeting this June 20–22 in Park City, UT, at the Marriott is taking shape and looks to be an affordable yet attractive location for another great annual meeting. Lodging is available for \$104/night (double or single bed) and the conference registration fee is anticipated to be around \$250, depending on revised meal prices. Park City is only 37 miles from the Salt Lake City airport, about a 45-minute shuttle ride, and sits in a very scenic mountain setting that offers many recreational activities. The WAEA continues to work toward having an annual meeting that addresses issues germane to the

West and is located in an attractive location for our season. WAEA membership remained steady last year after an increase in dues, suggesting our profession still believes the WAEA offers good value.

Join me in congratulating those selected for our next *JARE* editorial team in Banff. Christopher McIntosh will serve as editor, with co-editors of Larry Makus, Hayley Chouinard, and Gregmar Galinato. They will start taking new *JARE* submissions beginning April 1, 2012, and they have provided some background on how their duties will be divided out in this *WAEA News* issue. Special thanks goes to current *JARE* editor, Gary Brester, and co-editors, Joseph Atwood, Vincent Smith, and Myles Watts, as they finish out their 2010–2012 term. They have heightened publication standards for *JARE* and delivered timely issues this last year, in spite of the passing of our long-time technical editor and friend, Judy Harrison. Join me in thanking Amy Johnson for her talents and willingness to take on our technical editing tasks under these circumstances. Gary has provided an update on *JARE* happenings in this issue of *WAEA News*. Thanks is also given to Don McLeod for his editing of the *Western Economic Forum*. He has provided an update of articles that are coming out in the next two issues.

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Important Dates

WAEA Officer Ballots due
October 31, 2011

Selected Paper & Symposia
Submissions due
January 25, 2012

All Award Nominations due
February 10, 2012

Presenters of Selected Papers
& Symposia Proposals Must
Register by May 1, 2012

2012 Annual Meeting
Park City, Utah
June 20–22, 2012

2013 Annual Meeting
Monterey, California
July 26–28, 2013



Western Agricultural Economics Association

We are fortunate to have very capable members willing to run for president and our two director positions this year. Please take the time to vote (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GX9Y3M3>) and show your support for the Association and the nominees.

Executive Director, Inc. (EDI) has provided valuable expertise to the WAEA this last year in securing our non-profit status with the IRS. I am also looking forward to receiving accrual financial statements from EDI this year that do not require the usual “back of an envelope explanation” at our Annual Meeting.

Please find the call for selected papers, symposia, and WAEA awards for Park City in this issue. About five travel scholarships for graduate students will be offered again this year and these applications will be due

around the end of March, shortly after accepted selected papers are identified. Presenters of selected papers and symposia will need to pay their registration by May 1, 2012 in order for their presentation to be included in the program. I hope you make plans to attend our 2012 Park City, UT, meeting now so that you can benefit from the constructive discussion and valuable exchange of information offered. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,



Russell Tronstad
WAEA President



News From The JARE Editorial Team

You will have received the August 2011 issue of *JARE* by the time you read this note. Although the publication of this issue was a little tardy as the result of the passing of our technical editor and dear friend, Judy Harrison, we trust that you will find the issue to be both interesting and well-presented. Our new technical editor, Amy Johnson, has done a wonderful job of adopting new software technology (LaTeX) for the development of final pdf galley proofs. Our team is currently working on the papers that will appear in the December 2011 issue. The issue will arrive on your desks in early December and will include articles related to vertical coordination, consumer demand, crop insurance, the environment, and farm, livestock, and disease management.

Allow me to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated members of our profession who offer their time and talents to provide in-depth, constructive reviews of submitted papers. In my opinion, the scarcest of all resources is time. During the past year, we selected Terry Hurley as the inaugural Outstanding *JARE* Reviewer. As I noted in Banff, Terry did a wonderful job for us this past year—but we had a large pool of equally excellent candidates.

As I noted in my WAEA Presidential Address several years ago, publishing provides an accessible method for others to understand the current state of a profession. The peer-review process contributes to these objectives

by providing a check on procedural correctness and logical consistency, reducing search costs, and allocating scarce resources (journal pages). Although the process is far from perfect, we should remember the peer review process does not necessarily result in the discovery of truth. We should admonish ourselves for any such pretentiousness. The process is designed to meet the much more modest goals of advancing knowledge, evaluating the plausibility of ideas, documenting scientific activity, assigning property rights to ideas, and evaluating competency. In the process of providing peer reviews, we improve our ability to think critically and solve economic problems. We become better economists, and our contributions become more useful and relevant to others. We thank all of those who participate in this professional endeavor.

Finally, the quality of *JARE* rests on the quality of submitted manuscripts. We hope each of you considers *JARE* to be your primary research outlet. 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

Next JARE Editorial Team

At our annual meeting in Banff, the WAEA Executive Council and membership selected Christopher McIntosh, Larry Makus, Hayley Chouinard, and Gregmar Galinato to assume the next three-year term of editorial responsibilities for the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE)*. Their first issue will be Volume 38, Number One (April 2013), and they will take all new submissions after April 1, 2012.

Christopher McIntosh will serve as the editor. In addition, he will be primarily responsible for the reviews of manuscripts related to agricultural price analysis, production economics, and quantitative issues. Larry Makus will focus on reviews of manuscripts connected to agricultural finance, farm management, and agricultural marketing. Hayley Chouinard will mainly oversee reviews of manuscripts associated with consumer demand and food policy. Gregmar Galinato will devote most of his efforts to submissions on resource and environmental economics issues, agricultural policy issues, and international trade. Christopher McIntosh and Larry Makus are professors in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the

University of Idaho. Hayley Chouinard and Gregmar Galinato are associate professor and assistant professor in the School of Economic Sciences at Washington State University.

The editorial team is committed to maintaining and improving *JARE*'s ranking. This will be accomplished by publishing manuscripts that provide significant contributions to the "economics of food and agriculture, natural resources and the environment, human resources, and rural regions" (from *JARE*'s Editorial Policy). All research-based manuscripts (regardless of area of focus) that address interesting agricultural and resource economics issues using appropriate research methodologies (both quantitative and qualitative) and contribute to our profession's knowledge base will be considered for publication. The new team members are in the process of developing their Editorial Council and are looking forward to receiving positive responses from many talented and dedicated members of our profession. The team encourages everyone to consider *JARE* as our primary publication outlet, as *JARE*'s reputation is dependent upon the receipt of high-quality submissions.



Western Economics Forum

Five articles are available in the *Special Issue on Western Water* of the *Western Economics Forum (Volume IX, Number 2 FALL 2010)*. The initial article addresses institutional concerns as per the Colorado River. It is followed by an articulation of water supply risk and uncertainty. The third and fourth pieces provide some water allocation and mitigation perspectives. The final piece provides insights into the contribution of irrigation water to land values.

- Lawrence J. MacDonnell, "The Disappearing Colorado River"
- W. Douglass Shaw and Richard T. Woodward, "Water Management, Risk, and Uncertainty: Things We Wish We Knew in the 21st Century"
- Bonnie G. Colby, Michael O'Donnell, and Rosalind Bark, "Innovations for Supply Reliability: Role of Inter-jurisdictional Agreements"
- Kristiana Hansen, "Water Markets and Water Rights Markets in the Western United States"

• Steven Shultz, "Hedonic Price Modeling to Value Irrigated Agriculture Across a River Basin"
The Spring 2011 issue (*Volume X, Number 1 SPRING 2011*) has just been posted and includes the following articles:

- Eric C. Schuck, W. Marshall Frasier, Robert Ebel, Eric Houk, and Gareth Green, "Retirement and Salinity Effects on Irrigation Technology Choices"
- J. Clay Francis and Carl Zulauf, "Analysis of ACRE's Dryland—Irrigated Provision"
- Suzette P. Galinato, Douglas L. Young, Craig S. Frear, and Jonathan K. Yoder, "Will Washington Provide Its Own Crop Feedstocks for Biofuels?"
- Jeffery R. Williams, Matthew J. Pachta, Mark Claassen, Kraig Roozeboom, and Richard Llewelyn, "Wheat Stubble To Burn or Not to Burn: An Economic Analysis"

Check <http://waeonline.org/waeawef.htm> for current and past issues

WAEA Officer Elections

We are grateful for the following members who have agreed to stand for election.

Voting Instructions

Please vote by October 31, 2011. Web ballots should be submitted at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GX9Y3M3>.

Candidates for President (please choose one)



Donald M. McLeod

*Associate Professor,
University of Wyoming*

Background

- Graduated Oregon State University in Natural Resource and Environmental Economics 1994.
- Served as a research post doc investigating Conservation Reserve Program contract renewal/termination and soil conservation strategies 1994–5.
- Worked as a lecturer with a 3 + 3 semester teaching load 1995–97 at University of Wyoming.
- Assistant professor as of 1997 and associate professor circa 2003.
- Since 1995 course preps include micro principles; environment and society; farm and ranch management; water resource economics; advanced natural resource economics; graduate research methodology; and natural resource planning and economics. 14-year instructor for Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources (U. Wyoming) graduate/undergraduate capstone course; and 10-year instructor for Agricultural and Applied Economics (U. Wyoming) undergraduate capstone course.
- Three times nominated for College Teaching Award and once for Advising Award;
- co-author NACTA article of the year award 2003. Research Program: Economics of land use and water planning, conservation and preservation.
- Published in journals across spectrum of audiences including the *Journal of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers* and *Journal of Extension* as well as *Land Economics* and *Ecological Economics*. Recipient of first research grant given by Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources (U. Wyoming) as well as PI/co-PI on 4 USDA NRI CGP or NIFA awards.
- University service has consisted of undergraduate recruiting to College T&P committee work.

- Performed as a USDA-CSREES National Program Leader in Natural Resources and Environmental Economics (2003); U. Wyoming graduate faculty (since 1996); Former departmental chair of graduate program (2002–08); President W-2133 Regional Research Committee (2004); and Current WEF editor (2008–present).

WAEA Vision Statement

What sets the WAEA apart from other associations? Topic areas are one distinguishing attribute: most of what we do has an explicit resource and/or rural community development (the two overlapping in the West) component. Reflect on why it is that people live in the rural West? One rationale is the diverse land uses, open spaces, private sector initiatives and public lands. The preceding are important considerations for research and outreach programs and offer essential content for course material on campus and off. This set of insights, interests, and opportunities underscore my view of what WAEA is and can become.

The president of the WAEA should strive to enhance the relevance of WAEA in a variety of traditional and newly emerging areas of research and policy (i.e., economics of wildlife; multi-functionality of rural lands; niche markets and specialty products; risk mitigation strategies; public lands issues; pan-Pacific and western hemisphere trade issues; rural well being; tourism and extractive industries).

The annual set of conference presentations as well as the JARE and WEF journals (e.g., see WEF <http://waeonline.uwagec.org/WEForum/WEF-Vol.9-No.2-Fall2010.pdf>) could be organized around special topic specific volumes-sessions that extend beyond, but do not omit, traditional areas.

This purpose is also better served through designation of Outreach and Extension Educator annual meeting sessions in addition to student instruction sessions-volumes of our conferences and publications.

The president has and should continue to develop partnerships beyond current liaisons to include joint work with, or some sort of participation by, USDA-ERS, AERE, Regional Research Committees, Western Governors, and the Western Rural Development Center.

MS student presentations/memberships should continue to be encouraged as part of the annual meetings. I would like to see novel amenity-rich meeting sites such as Banff, Canada in 2010 and relish joint ventures with other associations to the extent our work is not minimized or marginalized.



James W. Richardson
*Professor,
Texas A&M University*

Background

James Richardson is regents professor, AgriLife research senior faculty fellow, and co-director of the Agricultural and Food Policy

Center in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. He has three degrees in agricultural economics; he received his B.S. degree from New Mexico State University (1971) and his M.S. (1973) and Ph.D. (1978) degrees from Oklahoma State University. He has been at Texas A&M University since 1978. He has served as a reviewer for WJAE and JARE since 1978, published nine articles in the journals and has contributed numerous presented papers at WAEA meetings. He received WAEA awards for: Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching (2006) and Distinguished Scholar (2008).

WAEA Vision Statement

I have enjoyed membership in the WAEA for more than 35 years. WAEA has provided an excellent outlet for applied research and the exchange of research and outreach ideas over a wide range of topics important to the West. I consider it an honor to be nominated for the president of the WAEA and if elected I will work to enhance WAEAs stature and image in the profession.

My vision for the WAEA is that it should continue its strong tradition of a highly respected Journal and an outstanding Annual Meeting. The tradition of hosting an interesting annual meeting in nice locations in the West must continue to receive a high priority for the Association. The meetings should be a forum where an open exchange of ideas can take place on a range of applied research and outreach topics that are important to the people in the West. The annual meeting should continue to be a place to discuss issues that are unique to the Western states rather than a place to share methodological breakthroughs. Additionally, the WAEA meeting should foster the exchange of ideas from the perspective of both research and outreach on how to address economic and resource issues related to the Western states.

JARE should continue to receive the necessary resources to maintain its place as a highly respected journal where applied research can find a home. For our profession of applied agricultural and resource economics to survive, we need to promote and support a scholarly outlet where quality research and extension can be published and the next generation of agricultural and resource economists can demonstrate scholarly contributions and get promoted. JARE can continue to serve that role for the profession and as we move into the next era of scholarly publishing we should investigate the feasibility of offering a web based journal.



Candidates for Director (please choose two)



Kynda Curtis
*Associate Professor,
Utah State University*

Background

Dr. Kynda Curtis has been an associate professor and Extension economist in the Department of Ap-

plied Economics at Utah State University since 2010. Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, Kynda holds a B.A. in economics from Whitman College and an M.S. in financial services from the American College. After spending several years working in the finance industry in Seattle, WA, she completed a Ph.D. in economics at Washington State University (2003), where she specialized in agricultural marketing and econometrics. Before coming to Utah she spent seven years as a faculty member at the University of Nevada, Reno. Kynda has taught a number of graduate and undergraduate courses including microeconomics, international agricultural marketing, agribusiness management and finance, agricultural and food marketing, as well as international trade and development. Kynda's research interests include international agriculture/food marketing, consumer economics, and industrial organization. She has published work on consumer willingness to pay (WTP) for genetically modified foods, economic feasibility of local processing, implementation or adoption of water conserving crops, and homeowner WTP for and use of water conserving landscaping. Her recent research activities focus on consumer preferences for and WTP for local and organic foods, as well as natural and grass-fed beef products.

In her Extension appointment Kynda works with agricultural producers to assist them in developing new markets for their products and assessing the feasibility of new food and agricultural products and value-added processes. She received Extension program awards (as

part of the Western Extension Marketing Committee) from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA). She has served as chair and member of the WAEA Extension Awards committee and currently serves as the chair of the AAEA Professional Development and Mentoring taskforce.

WAEA Vision Statement

I am honored to be nominated to serve as a director of the WAEA. I have been a member of the WAEA since 2002 when I had the opportunity as a graduate student to travel to and present a paper at the annual meetings in Long Beach, CA. During my years with WAEA I have served the organization as a member and chair of the Extension awards committee and as a selected paper reviewer. I am excited about this new opportunity to serve the WAEA membership. In the west we are graced with a very active regional association which provides its members with many professional development, scholarship, and service opportunities. Additionally, WAEA members are always welcoming and supportive. For example, I have presented papers at WAEA meetings in at least seven of the last ten years and the feedback and participation of those in attendance was always valuable and constructive. I continually encourage graduate students to present at WAEA meetings and the graduate student travel grants provided by the WAEA assist greatly in helping students to take advantage of this professional development opportunity. As a WAEA director I would like to focus on enhancing the professional development and mentoring activities of the association. I believe that including industry professionals and other stakeholders in association activities will allow us to better serve our audiences through outreach work, as well as provide our students with additional job opportunities.





Greg McKee

*Assistant Professor,
North Dakota State University*

Background

Dr. McKee has been a member of the North Dakota State University Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics since 2006. He teaches at NDSU, the University of North Dakota, Dickinson State University, and Lake Region State College and has been recognized for teaching excellence by NDSU and the WAEA. He earned his B.A. (economics) from Brigham Young University (1999), and M.A. (2003) and Ph.D. (2006) from the University of California, Davis. McKee's fields of specialization include finance, strategy, and governance of cooperative businesses. He has been a member of the WAEA since 2006.

Dr. McKee has been a member of NCERA-210 (2006), a regional research and education committee studying agricultural cooperatives, having served a variety of executive roles. He is an executive member of the eXtension Cooperatives community of practice (2008), the board of directors of the Association of Cooperative Educators (2009), and the board of directors of a local credit union (2010). He has been a reviewer for a variety of applied economics journals. Recent publications include

- K. Froelich, McKee, G.J., and R. Rathge. 2011. "Impediments to Executive Succession Planning in Nonprofit Firms." *Non-profit Management and Leadership* 22(1):3–20.
- McKee, G.J. and S. Duffield. 2011. "High School Student Attitudes toward Cooperative Businesses after Participation in an Instructional Activity about Cooperative Businesses." *Journal of Education for Business* 86:357–363.
- McKee, G.J. 2011. "Capital Budgeting Decisions for Electricity Distribution Cooperatives: The Case of Cass County Electric Cooperative" *Journal of Cooperatives* 25:16–24.

- McKee, G.J. 2011. "Modeling the Effect of Spatial Externalities on Invasive Species Management: The Greenhouse Whitefly in California-grown Strawberries." *Agricultural Systems* 104: 94–103.
- McKee, G.J., Shaik, S., and M. Boland. 2009. "Role of Financial Variables in Explaining the Profitability of North Dakota Farm Supply and Grain Marketing Cooperatives." *Journal of Rural Cooperation* 37(2):261–272.
- McKee, G.J., M. Boland. 2009. "North American Bison Cooperative and North Dakota Natural Beef: Governance Issues in a Contractual Alliance." *Journal of Cooperatives* 23:152–165.

Interest in WAEA Director Position

I would like to contribute to an objective examination of how partnerships between public universities and private firms affect the productivity of applied economists who are members of the association. Public universities function within an environment of declining public resources, yet serving populations with increasing environmental and natural resource constraints. In addition, labor force demographics and increasingly sophisticated agricultural marketing techniques have increased the need for well-trained students in agricultural economics. These conditions have led to increasing reliance on private sources for research funding and vested interest in curriculum development. In my opinion, agricultural economists should continue to objectively consider what implications of this trend mean for the research and educational priorities of agricultural economics/applied economics departments. I propose discussion about the assumptions behind these relationships, what is important about this trend, and identifying what we need to know about how it will affect agricultural economic research and education. Exploring this question within the context of WAEA board service will foster the exchange of information relevant to this topic.





Karina Schoengold
*Assistant Professor,
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

Background

Dr. Schoengold is an assistant professor with a joint appointment in the Department of Agricultural Economics and the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. A native of Madison, Wisconsin, she has a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in math and economics and a Ph.D. from the University of California-Berkeley in agricultural and resource economics. Dr. Schoengold has been the departmental representative for the WAEA Executive Council since 2008. She has published and reviewed manuscripts and proposals for a variety of journals, conferences, and grant opportunities. Her research interests are in the area of natural resource economics, with a focus on decisions about technology choice, the use of conservation practices, and water pricing. She is particularly interested in the use of conservation practices and technology choice under risk.

Goals for WAEA

I have found participating in the WAEA to be beneficial through the opportunities it has afforded for collaboration with faculty from other universities. I will work to increase membership by making new graduate students and recently hired faculty members aware of the benefits of being a part of the WAEA. As a junior faculty member at a land grant institution, I am cognizant of the multiple responsibilities of faculty in today's university system, including research, teaching, and outreach/extension. This set of responsibilities and the skills necessary to be successful are not unique to a single department but are relevant across the entire WAEA membership. One of my goals as a Director of the WAEA Executive Council is to develop a mentoring program for junior faculty members which will match junior faculty with senior faculty. I would also like to explore ways to increase attendance at the WAEA annual meeting. One possibility that I plan to look into is incorporating more posters in the conference, as it seems like posters have been a great way for other associations to increase overall attendance while still keeping a manageable number of parallel sessions. I look forward to having the opportunity to work with the Association.





Philip Watson

*Assistant Professor,
University of Idaho*

Background

Philip Watson is an assistant professor at the University of Idaho. His research focuses on the role of agriculture and natural resources in the economic health of communities, the causes of regional economic growth, public resource management, and how communities value their natural resources. Phil is a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology and has a joint appointment with the interdisciplinary Bioregional Planning program. He has taught courses on community economic development theory, community economic development methods, regional planning methods, bioregional planning, and natural resource economics.

Dr. Watson received his Ph.D. from Colorado State University's Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. He has worked with both private firms and government agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Park Service, National Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management on a broad array of regional economic and natural resource management issues. He first presented at the annual WAEA meetings as a graduate student in 2004 and has

greatly appreciated the association ever since that initial extremely positive experience.

Vision Statement

The thing that I have appreciated most about the WAEA is its commitment to promoting relevant research and discussion in agricultural, natural resource, environmental, regional development, and applied economic topics that are highly relevant to Western, national, and international problems. To me, economics is an evidence-based problem-solving discipline and I want to encourage and commend the WAEA for its commitment to meeting current challenges in a changing world.

The topics addressed by the WAEA are more relevant to society now in the twenty-first century than they have ever been. Agriculture is feeding more people now than it ever has before while meeting new challenges to determine its role in energy and biotechnology production. Natural resources are playing an ever more complex role in a society hungry for resources while increasingly sensitive to environmental consequences of externalities and public good issues surrounding natural resources. Urban and rural communities alike are looking anew at their relationship to the food they eat and examining how to best use their land and resources to provide a prosperous future for generations to come. These are big topics and I want to be a part of a WAEA that is committed to meeting these challenges head on with practical approaches that use the best available science to answer real world problems.



WAEA 2012 Call For General Award Nominations

(Christopher McIntosh and Jonathan Yoder)

The deadline for all submissions is February 10, 2012. For questions, please contact Chris (phone: 208-589-4485; email: mcintosh@uidaho.edu) or Jon (phone: 509-335-8596; email: yoder@wsu.edu) with any questions.

Outstanding 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 2011 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: Nominations must be made by WAEA members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. An electronic copy (pdf format is preferred) of each publication will be emailed to the chair of the selection committee. Selection of the

award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Send nominations to Dr. Richard Shumway (shumway@wsu.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.*

MS Thesis Award

Purpose of Award: To recognize outstanding research by graduate students from WAEA institutions.

Nature of the Award: The award will be called "Outstanding 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.

Eligibility Requirements: Nominees must have completed the master's degree at a WAEA institution during the calendar year prior to the association meeting. Only theses bearing a completion date within the calendar year prior to the association meeting 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, and
- (4) Effectiveness of reporting.

Procedure: Nominations must be made by departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. Only one nomination per institution can be submitted. An electronic copy (pdf format) of the thesis needs to be emailed to the chair of the selection committee.

Send nominations to Dr. Kimberly Rollins (krollins@cabnr.unr.edu).

Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award

—with less than 10 years experience

—with more than 10 years experience

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

Nature of the Awards: The awards will be called "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award with Less Than 10 Years Experience for the Western Agricultural Economics Association" and "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award with More Than 10 Years Experience for the Western Agricultural Economics Association." These awards may be made annually at the WAEA meeting. The winners will receive certificates.

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.

Procedure: Nominations must be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. The nominator should submit a letter of nomination, along with 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. Summary tables may be added to the letter of nomination to provide supplemental and supporting data. These summary tables will not be counted as part of the three-page limit for the nomination letter and will also not be counted as one of the three supporting items. A maximum of three supporting items may also be included. Electronic files of all materials shall be emailed to the chair of the selection committee. Supporting materials may be scanned and submitted. Selection of the award winners will be made by a committee.

Send nominations to Dr. Edward Rister (e-rister@tamu.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.*

Outstanding Extension Program Award
—for Project
—for Career

Purpose of Awards: To recognize outstanding extension programs by members of the Association.

Nature of the Awards: (1) The award called “Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Project” shall be given to programs that are of less than or equal to five years duration. (2) The award called “Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Career” shall be given to programs that are of more than five years duration. These awards may be made annually at the WAEA meeting. 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).

Procedure: Nominations must be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. The nominator should submit a letter of nomination, along with 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. Summary tables may be added to the letter of nomination to provide supplemental and supporting data. These summary tables will not be counted as part of the three-page limit for the nomination letter and will also not be counted as one of the three supporting items. A maximum of three supporting items may also be included. Electronic copies of all materials shall be emailed to the chair of the awards committee. Materials may be scanned and submitted. Selection of the award winners will be made by a committee.

Send nominations to Dr. Thomas Harris (harris@cabnr.unr.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.*



Call for Distinguished Scholar Award Nominations

Deadline: February 10, 2012
(Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.)

Send Applications to Larry Van Tassell at lvantassell2@unl.edu

Purpose of the Award: To recognize individuals making an endur-

ing contribution over their career to agricultural, resource, and/or environmental economics in the Western states and the WAEA, demonstrating excellence in some combination of the following areas of performance:

- Basic and applied economics research
- Integration of knowledge (textbook writing or synthetic reviews)
- Service or outreach drawing on economic expertise

- Teaching (undergraduate and/or graduate)
- Administration (institution and/or WAEA).

Nomination Process: Any member of the association may nominate any living member for the honor of election as distinguished scholar by submitting the name to the Larry Van Tassell at lvantassell2@unl.edu no later than midnight, February 10, 2012. Documentation shall include a brief vitae (not to exceed six pages, double-spaced) along with a nomination letter describing why the person is worthy of the honor. The total nomination package will

be limited to a maximum of eight typed, double-spaced pages. A nominee must be a current member of the association, having been a member for a total of at least 20 years.

Nomination Pool: The Distinguished Scholars Selection Committee is responsible to augment the pool of nominees obtained from the general membership with economists who they feel should be considered for this recognition.

Distinguished Scholars Selection Committee: The Distinguished Scholars Selection Committee shall operate with a chairperson revolving annually and is comprised of four

scholars, the past president of the association, and WAEA directors.

Announcement of Election: The names of the newly elected scholars shall be announced at the annual meeting of the association by the president of the association or his/her appointed representative, who shall read a statement regarding the achievements of each scholar and shall present a plaque of recognition to each person so honored. The statements regarding achievements and photographs of the winners shall be published in the December issue of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*.



Call for Selected Papers

for the 2012 Meeting of the Western Agricultural Economics Association
(June 20–22, 2012, Park City, Utah)

Selection and presentation guidelines have been updated, so please read the complete guidelines carefully.

Eligibility: Proposals on any aspect of agricultural or resource economics, including teaching, research, and/or extension are encouraged. At least one author must be a member of WAEA. Additionally, by May 1, 2012, the presenting author must be identified, registered for the Annual Meeting and a current member of the WAEA in order for an accepted paper to be included in the program. **No member may submit more than one abstract as the sole or senior author, but an individual may be a junior author on multiple abstracts.** Papers should be original, not submitted elsewhere for presentation, and not previously presented at another agricultural economics meeting.

Paper Selection: Papers will undergo a double-blind peer review process. The Selected Paper Review Committee will prioritize paper acceptance based upon a rank order of scores on a paper review rubric. The final decision to accept or reject a paper will be made by the Selected Paper Committee Chair. Notification of paper acceptance will take place mid-March 2012. Authors and co-authors that withdraw or do not present accepted selected papers, except for unavoidable emergencies, will be tracked and this information may be used as part of the selection criteria for next year.

Submission Guidelines: Proposals must be submitted electronically through the link provided on WAEA's website (www.waeonline.org). Proposals must be submitted **in PDF format** and can not exceed two pages using double spacing and a 12-point font with one-inch

margins on all sides; however, references may be included on a third page. To facilitate the blind review process, please do not place the author(s) name(s) on the abstract. Author information will be collected separately during the electronic submission process. A suggested format for the abstract is as follows: Title, Problem Statement, Objectives, Data and Methods, Results or Expected Results, and Implications. **Submission Deadline: January 25, 2012 midnight (EST).** Proposals can be uploaded to the conference software via a link on the WAEA's website (www.waeonline.org) starting around mid-November 2011.

Topic Codes: Please indicate a two-digit topic area code on the title page that matches the paper's contribution most closely. This will determine who reviews the paper.

01—Production economics and farm/ranch management
 02—Resource and environmental economics
 03—Agri marketing, demand and price analysis
 04—Agribusiness
 05—Agricultural finance

06—Quantitative and research methods
 07—International trade and development
 08—Consumer and household economics
 09—Food agricultural policy
 10—Community and regional economics

11—Teaching and extension issues
 12—Agricultural industry organization
 13—Other
 Any questions should be directed to the Selected Paper Committee Chair, Catherine Keske:
Catherine.Keske@colostate.edu.



Call for Organized Symposia Proposals

The WAEA is seeking organized symposia proposals for the 2012 annual meeting in Park City, UT. Each symposium should consist of two or more speakers with ample time devoted to discussion. At least one author must be a member of the WAEA. If a symposium is accepted,

all presenters need to register for the annual meeting by May 1, 2012 to have the symposium included in the program. The proposal should include 1) title of symposium; 2) motivation for need and importance of the topic; 3) potential presenters, including a

brief description of their papers or discussion topics; and 4) session format (panel, short presentation or other structure). Please submit proposals via email to Russell Tronstad in **pdf format** at **tronstad@ag.arizona.edu** by January 25, 2012.

