

## WAEA News Update



The 2017 WAEA meetings met in Lake Tahoe, NV at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort. The lake-front location was well received, and provided for great recreational opportunities between meetings. The meetings were attended by 128 paid attendees, many of whom were also accompanied by family members. Thanks to Dawn Thilmany for the site selection, and Wade Brorsen for putting together an excellent program. Next summer we will meet in Anchorage, AK at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel and Spa.

Anchorage should be a great place to meet, and will continue the tradition of providing unique recreational options for both WAEA members and their guests. We will again meet jointly with the Western Extension Committee (WEC). Look for details in the next newsletter concerning both WEC and WAEA events, including information on the WEC tour.

WAEA hosted an impressive slate of award winners at the 2017 meetings. Congratulations to all award recipients - you can view them here:

<http://www.waeonline.org/about-waea/awards/past-award-winners>

Please see the call for 2018 WAEA awards, fellows, and symposiums listed below. The call for selected papers and the graduate student paper competition will be in the next newsletter. The selected paper deadline will be at the end of January and the awards deadlines are February 15.

Special thanks to Eric Belasco of Montana State University for chairing the committee focused on the future of the Western Economic Forum (WEF). As noted in the Spring 2016 Newsletter, WEF will be led and managed by a new editorial team consisting of Matt Stockton (University of Nebraska), Jay Parsons (University of Nebraska), Dana Hoag (Colorado State University), and Dan O'Brien (Kansas State University). **Their first issue will appear in 2018.**

The WAEA Executive Committee has selected the new JARE Editorial team. **Their term will begin January, 2018.** The team consists of Dragan Miljkovich, North Dakota State University; Anton Bekkerman, Montana State University; Darren Hudson, Texas Tech University; and Richard Woodward, Texas A&M University. All manuscripts already submitted, or that will be submitted before the end of the current year, will continue to be managed by the current JARE editors. Thanks to Dragan Miljkovich for responding to the call for new editors, and organizing an excellent team.

The 2019 WAEA meetings will be held at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, ID June 30-July 2. We anticipate continuing to meet with WEC in Coeur d'Alene following a successful joint meeting in Tahoe, and plans to jointly meet in Anchorage.

Note that the nominating committee has recruited an excellent set of candidates to stand for election as WAEA directors and officers. Summaries of their backgrounds and vision statements are provided below. Please vote! Voting is online and will close on November 15, 2017.

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## Important Dates

**2018 WAEA Annual Meeting**  
Anchorage, AK, June 24-26,  
2018

**2019 WAEA Annual Meeting**  
Coeur d'Alene, ID, June 30-July  
2, 2019



T. Randall Fortenbery  
WAEA President

### WAEA Officer Elections

The following candidates have agreed to stand for election:

#### **President**

**Scott Fausti**, California State University

**Christopher T. Bastian**, University of Wyoming

#### **Director**

**Brian Whitacre**, Oklahoma State University

**Hernan Tejada**, University of Idaho

**Amanda (Leister) Countryman**, Colorado State University

**Anton Bekkerman**, Montana State University

#### **Voting Instructions**

Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HYMHTSS> to submit your vote. The election deadline is **November 15, 2017**.

**Candidate Statements – President**

**Scott Fausti**  
*Associate Professor*  
*California State*  
*University*

**Background**

Scott Fausti is an Associate Professor of Agribusiness at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB). Dr. Fausti joined the

CSUMB faculty last August as an Associate Professor of Agribusiness. Prior to joining CSUMB, he retired from College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences at South Dakota State University after 25 years of service as a full professor in the Department of Economics and senior faculty member of the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Currently, Dr. Fausti teaches applied risk analysis and microeconomics to CSUMB agribusiness students. His research interests include price discovery and market transparency in livestock markets, and the role economic uncertainty plays in the decision making process of agricultural producers.

Dr. Fausti has been a member of WAEA since the mid-1990s, and is currently a WAEA Director (2014-2017). Dr. Fausti has served over 20 years on two USDA regional project committees: W-4177 and the SCC-76. He has served as chair on both of these committees in the past. Dr. Fausti is a long-standing

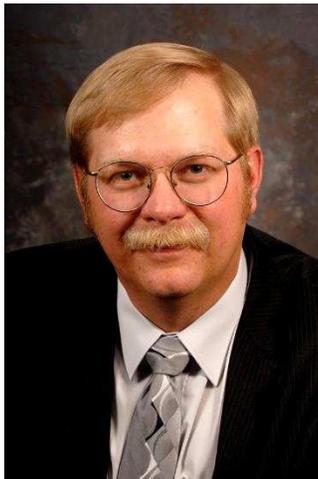
member of the AAEA Applied Risk Analysis section and served on the Section's executive committee from 2013 to 2015. Dr. Fausti is also a past president of the Missouri Valley Economic Association (2010-11) and has been a member of the MVEA executive committee since 2010.

**WAEA Vision Statement**

It's an honor to be nominated to serve as president of the WAEA. I have been a member of WAEA for most of my professional career. I attended my first WAEA annual meeting in 1995 in Rapid City, South Dakota. I have benefited tremendously from my involvement in the organization over the years and have been proud to be of service to the WAEA. Given my interest in agricultural economics, I have found the WAEA annual meeting to be intellectually stimulating due to the high quality of the research presentations by economists who are viewed by their peers as national experts. The annual meetings have allowed me to develop professional and personal relationships with agricultural economists from across the nation, and to develop a real appreciation for the diversity in agricultural production across the western states.

If elected President, I will dedicate myself to continuing past leadership policies of maintaining the fiscal stability of the association, providing support to the editorial staffs of the Association's two journals, and continuing the tradition of providing resources necessary to ensure that our annual meeting meets the needs of the membership and attracts new members to the Association.

## Candidate Statements –President



**Christopher T. Bastian**  
*Professor*  
*University of Wyoming*

### Background

I received my B.S. in Farm and Ranch Management and M.S. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Wyoming and completed my

Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Colorado State University. I am currently a Professor at the University of Wyoming in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. I have been fortunate enough to have received three regional group awards in extension from the WAEA (1997, 2005, 2006) as well as two group extension awards from the AAEE (1997, 2007). I also received the WAEA Outstanding Published Research Award, along with my coauthors, in 2014. I first became a member of the WAEA in 1987 when I received a free membership with my receipt of the WAEA Outstanding Senior Award from the University of Wyoming. I have maintained my membership ever since. I have served the WAEA in the following capacities: 2017- Outstanding MS Thesis Committee; 2012 – 2015 Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics – Editorial Board ; 2012 - present - UW Council Representative ; Elected Vice President Fall 2009 – Term 2010-2011 – Director and Co-Chair for 2011 CAES/WAEA Joint Annual Meeting Selected Papers Committee; 2007-2009 – Director; 2007 – Outstanding Published Research Award Committee; 2008 & 2009 – Distinguished Scholar Award Committee; 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014 – Selected Paper Referee; 2008 – Extension Award Review Committee; 2009 –

Graduate Student Travel Scholarship Award Committee (Co-chair with Jayson Lusk).

### WAEA Vision Statement:

Given limited travel budgets, when forced to choose between attending the WAEA or AAEE meetings, I generally choose the WAEA meetings. Why? I feel the WAEA meetings offer me better opportunities to interact with colleagues often facing similar issues in the West. These interactions have afforded me opportunities to learn from and collaborate with others across research, extension, and teaching activities. Moreover, I feel the WAEA meetings offer great opportunities for my graduate students to present their work and interact with professionals in a more meaningful way. What is my vision for serving the WAEA? Simply put, I want to give back to the WAEA because of its value to me and the mentorship I have been fortunate enough to receive from its members. I believe the association is generally on a good trajectory. We are financially sound. We were able to meet jointly with the Western Extension Committee this year, and given my background, I very much hope that we can continue to meet jointly and strengthen our ties with them in the future. According to President Brorsen, we have around 340 members. We are exploring potential opportunities to improve credible submissions to the *JARE*, and we now have an incoming editorial team for *WEF*. I am reminded of my friend and colleague, Dale Menkhaus who served as WAEA president. When he turned the gavel over to the incoming President, he said, “Here ya go. Now don’t screw up!” I will endeavor to serve the WAEA to the best of my abilities. I would like to explore opportunities to further our membership and increase communications of our members’ contributions to those we profess to help. I am not sure what that looks like at this point, but if elected, that is something I intend to spend energy on.

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**Candidate Statements – Director**


**Brian Whitacre**  
*Professor, Department  
 of Agricultural  
 Economics,  
 Oklahoma State  
 University*

**Background**

Brian Whitacre is a Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State

University. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Mary Washington and MS / PhD degrees from Virginia Tech. Brian holds a 3-way appointment in rural economic development at OSU, and his research / extension programs have a heavy focus on what broadband technology can mean for rural economies. He teaches an undergraduate class on rural economic development and a 1-credit graduate level course on spatial econometrics. Brian has experience leading multistate efforts in both research and extension, including chairing the community development section of the Southern Region's Program Leadership Network in 2013. He was awarded the AAEE's Early Career Professional Administrative Leadership Award in 2014, and has served as chair for the AAEE's Community and Regional Economics Section. Brian has served the WAEA as an award committee chair, offered a post-conference spatial econometrics workshop at the Lake Tahoe meetings in 2017, and is on the editorial council for the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*.

**WAEA Vision Statement**

There is a lot to like about the current state of the WAEA. The annual meeting locations are outstanding, and the awards are competitive and prestigious. The JARE continues to publish articles on topics of interest to western agricultural economists, such as alternative energy, water, and agricultural

labor / policy. Over the past several years, WAEA membership has been steady and there has been greater inclusion of both graduate student presentations and extension-oriented topics at the annual meetings. This reflects the vision and ideology of several past presidents and Board of Director members, and appropriately so in my opinion.

As a Director, I would continue to push for increased participation by graduate students and newly minted faculty. I was particularly impressed with the number of entries (and quality of competition) for the graduate student paper competition at the 2017 meetings. This competition has grown from only a single section with 4 papers in 2013 to 4 sections with 12 papers in 2017. Continued interest and involvement among this cohort is likely to serve the association well in future years, particularly if they find value in the networking opportunities that the annual conference presents.

I would also seek to highlight extension-focused work at the annual meetings. Many of our members have extension appointments and are interested in seeing variation in outreach approaches / issues across state lines; these sessions would also be useful for graduate students who typically have limited interaction with extension programming.

**Candidate Statements – Director**

**Hernan Tejada**  
*Assistant Professor,  
 Extension Specialist  
 Department of  
 Agricultural Economics  
 and Rural Sociology  
 University of Idaho*

**Background**

Hernan Tejada is an Assistant Professor, Extension Specialist in the Department of

Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the University of Idaho, covering the areas of Dairy and Livestock Economics. His undergrad degree is in Industrial Engineering from the Catholic University of Chile and after working in logistics for a large forest product company, he earned an MBA from the University of Notre Dame. After a brief period of teaching, he earned a Ph.D. in Economics from North Carolina State University focusing on agricultural commodity markets - linked to his family's farming roots in Southern Chile.

His main outreach/research program objectives are to improve the dairy and livestock industry's long term profitability in Idaho and the western region. With extension colleagues, he is educating agents and producers on risk management. His research is in price risk analysis and price transmissions/discovery, crop insurance and federal support programs, agribusiness, applied econometrics and time series analysis. He is also doing collaborative work and research with dairy economists from Southern and Midwestern states addressing dairy support program matters for the next farm bill. He is Idaho's representative on the WAEA Council, has attended and presented at WAEA annual meetings, reviewed selected paper abstracts for these meetings as well as reviewed manuscripts submitted to the JARE.

**WAEA Vision Statement**

Thank you very much for the possibility of serving you as a director of the WAEA, an honor and privilege.

WAEA serves a broad array of agricultural economic stakeholders and members. A non-exhaustive list includes researchers, specialists, educators, students, policy makers, agricultural agents/directors, producers and agribusiness agents. One of the main avenues for this purpose is accomplished through the association's annual meeting, where there is a confluence of research and extension studies presented and discussed mostly by university and research institution members, including students, but also attracting industry policy makers and stakeholders. Here the exchange and examination of new ideas and projects presented, including off-presentation discussions, generally enriches all participants - providing useful feedback and suggestions, as well as an opportunity to generate new ideas and/or projects through informal conversations. Other avenues of collaboration include the JARE, the Western Economics Forum and the Western Extension Risk Management Education committee, all of which contain insightful, valuable and pertinent findings to our discipline.

My vision is to assist in strengthening the (primary) goals of the WAEA. Day to day, agriculture economics continues to study and tackle new, relevant matters pertinent to the agricultural industry. Collaborating with colleagues to identify topics that are especially applicable to the western U.S. and Canada, as well as reaching out to agricultural stakeholders that may have a timely policy or educational role, will contribute to making our annual meetings more valuable. A very critical aspect is to continue to facilitate and attract students and their studies/projects to these meetings, as well as promoting their membership in WAEA. Attending the meetings will help students in their awareness and relevancy of the subject matters being addressed, as well as provide them a context of being part of a regional organization focused on addressing related matters of common ag-econ interests. Another aspect, when possible, will be to maintain open channels of discussion with other organizations that share common or related interests and/or activities to augment/enrich the activities of members and the overall contributions of the WAEA. If chosen, I will work in collaboration with the WAEA leadership addressing their objectives and these matters. Thank you very much once again for your consideration.

**Candidate Statements – Director**

**Amanda (Leister)  
Countryman**  
*Assistant Professor,  
Department of  
Agricultural and  
Resource Economics,  
Colorado State  
University*

**Background**

Amanda Countryman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at

Colorado State University. She holds B.S. degrees in Agricultural Economics and Spanish from the University of Arizona and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Economics from Texas A&M University and Purdue University, respectively. Her research program is centered on international agricultural trade with emphasis areas in trade policy, livestock products, and trade issues related to the environment and natural resources. Amanda teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in agricultural economics. Her research and teaching program provides a platform for meaningful engagement with state, national, and international stakeholders.

Amanda served the profession as Chair of the S-1062 Multistate research project and as a member of the WAEA Graduate Student Competition Committee in 2016, and was an AAEA International Section Co-Leader for abstract submissions for the meetings in 2017. She joined the WAEA Council in 2016 and began a three year term on the Choices editorial board in 2017.

**WAEA Vision Statement**

I am honored by the nomination to potentially serve the WAEA as a Director. My vision is to maintain the solid foundation of the Association provided by WAEA Leadership and offer further opportunities to

enhance the value of membership. Continued strength of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* is key, and I look forward to future contributions in the newly focused *Western Economics Forum*. I support the growing momentum for graduate student involvement in the Association and a special session during the Annual Meetings for graduate students. I recognize and appreciate the demand for continued theme-focused sessions at the WAEA meetings covering Extension, teaching, and research topic areas of importance in the West. I will work with the Executive Council to enhance the WAEA Annual Meeting program through continued collaboration and joint meetings with partner organizations including the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society and the Western Extension Committee. Furthermore, I will strive to expand membership through increased interactions with colleagues from academic and non-academic intuitions and professionals in the agricultural industry.

## Candidate Statements – Director



**Anton Bekkerman**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of  
Agricultural Economics  
and Economics,  
Montana State  
University

**Background**

Anton Bekkerman joined Montana State University in 2009 after receiving his PhD from North Carolina State

University. He has been an active member of the WAEA since 2008, serving on the Association's Council in 2010–2012 and as its Secretary in 2011 and 2012. Bekkerman has also served on the WAEA Distinguished Scholars and Outstanding Publication committees in multiple years. Additionally, he serves as the co-chair of the NCCC-134 Applied Commodity Price Analysis group and chair-elect of the NC-213 Marketing and Delivery of Quality Grains group and has served as the president of the North American Branch of AARES.

At MSU, his research focuses on small grains marketing and transportation issues, policy analysis, production and management economics of dryland cropping systems, and the economics of information and education. He has helped lead an effort with a team of colleagues to launch AgEconMT.com, a modern outreach platform that seeks to develop a more direct and more effective communication medium between researchers, extension specialists, and industry stakeholders in the western United States. Bekkerman also chairs the department's undergraduate instruction committee and currently teaches courses in agricultural marketing, managerial economics, and agriculture in a global context.

**WAEA Vision Statement**

It has been exciting to see continued growth in the number of young professionals and graduate students at the WAEA annual meetings over the eight years that I've been a member. This trend reflects the continued relevance and value of the WAEA as a forum for sharing and discussing high-quality research, collaborating on and improving instruction programming in traditional classroom and Extension settings, and strengthening professional networks among agricultural and natural resource economists in the western U.S. It also presents an important opportunity for the WAEA to build on the association's strengths and historical comparative advantages as well as reflect on and align with the changing landscape of research, instruction, and Extension objectives and practices.

I envision serving in both supporting and leadership roles, developing and implementing objectives that would strengthen the association. One objective would be to increase retention of graduate students, young professionals, and individuals from non-land grant institutions as WAEA members and conference attendees. An important step would be to develop a deeper understanding of the professional benefits that the WAEA uniquely offers to its members and determine whether there are opportunities to enhance the association's role in advancing its members' career development. A second objective would be to assess whether opportunities exist to improve communication between the association and its academic and industry stakeholders. This would better showcase the relevance, contributions, and successes of WAEA members, advancing the recognition of both individual members and the association as a whole.

The WAEA remains an important and vibrant community of scholars, and I hope to have an opportunity to play a role in expanding, strengthening, and promoting the work and contributions of this community.

## 2018 WAEA Call for General Award Nominations

letter of nomination should summarize the research of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above.

**Send nominations to Scott Fausti at [sfausti@csumb.edu](mailto:sfausti@csumb.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.***

The deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, **February 15, 2018**. For questions, please contact

**Eric Belasco ([eric.blasco@montana.edu](mailto:eric.blasco@montana.edu)) or**

**Glynn Tonsor ([gtonsor@ksu.edu](mailto:gtonsor@ksu.edu))**

### Graduate Paper or Master's Thesis Award

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

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

**Eligibility Requirements:** Nominees must have completed the master's degree at a WAEA institution during the 2017 calendar year. Only thesis or graduate published papers 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
- (4) Effectiveness of reporting

**Procedures:** Nominations must be made by departments located within the geographic scope of the Association. Only one nomination per institution can be submitted. A letter of nomination and an electronic copy (pdf format) of the thesis needs to be emailed to the chair of the selection committee. The

## Outstanding Published Research Award

**Purpose of the 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 2017 publication date will be considered. Articles published in the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* (JARE) are not eligible. Textbooks will not be considered published research for the purpose of this award.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- (1) Importance and significance of the results,
- (2) Quality of the work, and
- (3) Effectiveness of reporting

**Procedures:**

- (1) Nominations must be made by WAEA members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
- (2) An electronic copy (**pdf format** is preferred) of each publication will be emailed to the chair of the selection committee.
- (3) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

**Send nominations to Tom Marsh at**

**tl\_marshall@wsu.edu.** *Electronic submission only.  
Materials may be scanned and submitted.*

## Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards

- With less than 10 years' experience
- With more than 10 years' experience

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

**Nature of the Awards:** Two awards may be given. (1) The first shall be called "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with less than 10 years' experience." (2) The second will be called "Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association with more than 10 years' experience." The winner(s) will receive a certificate(s). This award will be made annually at the WAEA meeting.

**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.

### Procedures:

- (1) Nominations may be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
- (2) Nomination Packet:
  - a. The nominator should submit a letter of nomination, 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 (single spaced).
  - b. Summary tables may be added to the letter of nomination to provide supplemental and

- supporting data. NOTE: 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.
- c. 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.
  - (3) Electronic files of all materials shall be sent to the chair of the awards committee. Supporting materials may be scanned and submitted.
  - (4) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee

**Send nominations to Gary Brester at [gbrester@montana.edu](mailto:gbrester@montana.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.***

## Outstanding Extension Program Awards

- For Project
- For Career

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

**Nature of the Awards:** Two awards may be given annually. (1) The first shall be called the "Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Project." This award shall be given to programs that are of less than or equal to five years duration. (2) The second award shall be called "Outstanding Extension Program Award of the Western Agricultural Economics Association, for Career." This award 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).

### Procedures:

- (1) Nominations must be made by Association members and/or departments located within the geographic scope of the Association.
- (2) Nomination Packet
  - a. The nominator should submit a letter of nomination, 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 (single spaced).

- b. Summary tables may be added to the letter of nomination to provide supplemental and supporting data. NOTE: 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.
- c. A maximum of three supporting items (letters of recommendation, publications, videos, etc.) may also be included. Each letter of recommendation, publication, video, etc. counts as one time.

(3) Electronic files of all materials shall be emailed to the chair of the awards committee. Supporting materials may be scanned and submitted.

(4) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

**Send nominations to George Haynes at [haynes@montana.edu](mailto:haynes@montana.edu). *Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted.***

## Call for WAEA Fellow Award Nominations

**Deadline: February 15, 2018** (*Electronic submission only. Materials may be scanned and submitted*).

**Send Applications to Wade Brorsen at [wade.brorsen@okstate.edu](mailto:wade.brorsen@okstate.edu).**

**Purpose of the Award:** To recognize individuals making an enduring 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:

1. Basic and applied economics research
2. Integration of knowledge (textbook writing or synthetic reviews)
3. Service or outreach drawing on economic expertise
4. Teaching (undergraduate and/or graduate)
5. Administration (institution and/or WAEA)

**Nomination Process:** Any member of the association may nominate any living member for the honor of election as WAEA fellow by submitting the name to **Wade Brorsen at [wade.brorsen@okstate.edu](mailto:wade.brorsen@okstate.edu)**. no later than midnight, February 15, 2018.

Documentation shall include a brief vita (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 WAEA Fellow Award 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.

**WAEA Fellow Award Selection Committee:** The WAEA Fellow Award Selection Committee shall operate with a chairperson revolving annually and is comprised of four fellows, the past president of the association, and WAEA directors.

**Announcement of Election:** The names of the newly elected fellows 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 fellow 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 September issue of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*.

## Call for Organized Symposia Proposals

The WAEA is seeking organized symposia proposals for the 2018 annual meeting in Anchorage, AK. Each symposium should consist of two or more speakers with ample time devoted to discussion, but we are open to a variety of formats (panels, speakers with discussants, audience participation). 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 April 27, 2018 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 **Randy Fortenbery**, in pdf format, at **[r.fortenbery@wsu.edu](mailto:r.fortenbery@wsu.edu)** by February 15, 2018.