



1. Start Planning for San Francisco, California!

The 2024 WAEA annual meeting is from Sunday, June 23 to Tuesday, June 25 in San Francisco, California. The meeting rooms and hotel block will be at the San Francisco Marriott at Union Square (480 Sutter Street). The meeting starts in the afternoon of Sunday, June 23, with the executive meetings and reception. Conference sessions will run for one and a half days, with the Keynote Address presented in the luncheon on Monday, June 24, the Presidential Address presented the morning of Tuesday, June 25, and Award Ceremony presented in the luncheon on Tuesday, June 25. The extension tour will be scheduled for the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, June 25.

As detailed in this newsletter, we will have a normal slate of sessions and awards in this summer's meeting. Please consider a self-nomination or nominating one of your colleagues for these available awards. All awards will be presented during the summer meeting. Also, consider submitting a paper or organized symposium for our upcoming meeting.

Submission deadlines for selected paper and symposium proposals are February 9, and award nominations are February 16.

Please see the additional details contained in this newsletter for submission information. Encourage your graduate students to submit papers and apply for the graduate student paper competition. This is a great opportunity for graduate students to gain experience in presenting their research, expand their networks, and compete against other top graduate students.

Thank you, and we will have information about the hotel booking and registration details in the Spring WAEA Newsletter.

2. WAEA Officer Election Results

Many thanks to all members who stood for election and those who voted. Congratulations to **Dayton Lambert**, the next WAEA President-Elect, and **Ram Acharya** and **William (Bill) Ridley**, the two new incoming WAEA Directors. All elected officers have a three-year service commitment. We very much appreciate their willingness to devote time to the WAEA.

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Important Dates:

*Selected Paper & Organized Symposia
Deadline: February 9, 2024*

*Awards and Fellows Nomination
Deadline: February 16, 2024*

Future Meetings:

*2024 WAEA Meeting
June 23-25, 2024
San Francisco, CA*

*2025 AAEA - WAEA Joint Meeting
July 27-29, 2025
Denver, CO*

3. 2024 WAEA Membership Renewal

The time to renew your WAEA membership is upon us. You may renew through the AAEA or you can renew online via this link. <http://www.waeaonline.org/membership>.

4. Reminder of the New JARE Submission Portal and Editorial Team

New JARE Editorial Team: Dr. Vardges Hovhannisyanyan (University of Wyoming), Dr. Simanti Banerjee (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Dr. Liang Lu (University of Idaho), and Dr. Fabio Santeramo (University of Foggia) are the new editorial team for the Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics for the issues appearing in the publication years of 2024 to 2026.

New JARE submission portal: In addition to a new JARE Editorial Team, the WAEA Executive Council and the JARE Editorial Team have decided to switch to a new submission portal, *effective January 1, 2024*. Starting January 1 submissions to JARE will go through Editorial Express, which can be accessed at the following link: https://editorialexpress.com/e-editor/jare_login.html

Manuscripts that are in the system through Manuscript FastTrack will continue to go through Manuscript FastTrack.

5. Call for Selected Papers

Eligibility: Proposals on any aspect of agricultural and resource economics, including teaching, research, and/or extension are encouraged. At least one author must be a member of WAEA. Additionally, by May 1, 2024, the presenting author must be identified and registered for the Annual Meeting and a current member of the WAEA for an accepted paper to be included in the program. No member may submit more than one abstract as the presenting author, but an individual may be an 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 from review rubric. The final decision to accept or reject a paper will be made by the Selected Paper Review Committee Chairs. Notification of paper acceptance will take place mid-March 2024. Authors and co-authors who 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.waeaonline.org) or directly at the link below. Proposals must be submitted in pdf format and cannot 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, Methods, Results or Expected Results, and Implications.

Submission Deadline: February 9, 2024, midnight (PST). Proposals can be uploaded to the conference software via <https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/WAEA2024/Submission/Index>.

Graduate Paper Competition: The WAEA would like to encourage the submission of quality papers by graduate students. To this end, the WAEA plans to hold a contest for the outstanding selected papers submitted by graduate students. To be eligible for this competition, a student must: a) be the lead author on the selected paper; b) indicate in the submission process that the paper is to be considered in the competition; c) be a member of WAEA as of **February 9, 2024**; and d) present the paper in person at the WAEA meetings in San Francisco, California. Submissions must include a draft of their paper and are due to Glynn Tonsor (gtonsor@ksu.edu) by May 17, 2024. The authors of the top three papers will receive cash rewards of \$500, \$250, and \$100.

Submission Procedures: After navigating to the conference software website, (<https://cmt3.research.microsoft.com/WAEA2024/Submission/Index>):

If you have not submitted through this system in the past, you will need to create a user account by clicking the “Registration” tab in the online system.

1. After you log in to the system, click “+ Create new submission” in the Author Console.
2. Enter the title of your proposal.
3. The section “AUTHORS” should list your e-mail address, Name, Organization, and Country.
4. To add more authors, please enter the e-mail address of your co-author and click “+ Add.” Fill in the fields to provide the name, organization, and country of your co-author and click “+ Add.” Repeat this process to add more co-authors.
5. Select the submission category. If you are submitting to the Selected Paper category, please choose the specific topic area that best characterizes your paper. If you are a graduate student who does *not* wish to participate in the graduate student paper competition, please use the Selected Paper category.
6. To upload your proposal in PDF format, click “Upload from Computer” and select the file.
7. Click “Submit.” You will receive a notice of your submission.

Any questions should be directed to the Selected Paper Committee Chairs, Deepthi Kolady at Deepthi.kolady@okstate.edu or Vardges Hovhannisyan at vhovham@uwyo.edu.

6. Call for WAEA Organized Symposia Proposals

We plan to have a couple WAEA organized symposia sessions in the meetings. 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 May 1, 2024 to have the symposium included in the program. The proposal should not exceed 1000 words and be submitted as a pdf file with double-spacing. The proposal should include 1) title of symposium; 2) motivation, 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 WAEA President Karina Schoengold at kschoengold2@unl.edu by **February 9, 2024**. Include “WAEA 2024 Organized Session Proposal” in the subject line.

A committee headed by the WAEA President will evaluate the proposals. The final selection of proposals will be based on a clearly worded rationale for their proposed organized symposium.

Authors will be notified of the status of their proposal(s) by mid-March 2024.

7. WEC Call for Extension Symposium Proposals

The Western Extension Committee (WEC) is seeking organized symposia proposals for the 2024 annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the WAEA meetings in San Francisco, CA from June 23-25, 2024. Each symposium should consist of two or more speakers with ample time devoted to discussion. We are open to a variety of formats (panels, speakers with discussants, audience participation). At least one presenter must be a member of the WAEA.

If a symposium is accepted, all presenters must register for the annual WAEA meeting by May 1, 2024, to have the symposium included in the program. The proposal should include: 1) A designation as either a Farm Management or Agricultural Marketing symposium; 2) Title of symposium; 3) Motivation for and importance of the topic; 4) Potential presenters, including a brief description of their papers or discussion topics; and 5) Session format (panel, short presentation, or other structure). Symposium proposals should be submitted to either the WEC Extension track or to a WAEA track, not both.

Please submit proposals via email to WEC Selected Presentation/Symposium Chair Pat Hatzenbuehler in PDF format at phatzenbuehler@uidaho.edu by **February 9, 2024**.

8. General WAEA Award Nominations for 2024

Awards: Nominations are due **February 16, 2024**. Please submit your award nomination directly to the award chair listed for each award below. For questions, please contact both Award Committee Chairs: Kate Fuller (Kate.Fuller@usda.gov) and Mykel Taylor (mrt0055@auburn.edu).

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 of each award will receive a plaque presented 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) Enthusiasm for teaching,
- (2) Availability and helpfulness to students,
- (3) Mastery of subject matter,
- (4) Effective explanation of class materials,
- (5) Class preparation, planning, and organization,
- (6) Opportunities for class participation and discussion,
- (7) Creativity in designing and using innovative teaching methods,
- (8) Impact on student learning, based on teaching and peer evaluations, and
- (9) 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 should include:
 - a. A letter of nomination (limited to no more than three pages, single spaced) summarizing the teaching accomplishments of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above.
 - b. A maximum of three letters of recommendation (each letter should be no more than two pages, single spaced).
 - c. Supplementary materials (e.g., teaching evaluations), no more than three pages, single spaced.
 - d. Publications, videos, etc. may be included.
- (3) Electronic files of all materials as a single pdf file 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 in pdf form to Joe Atwood (both teaching awards) at jatwood@montana.edu, and clarify in the letter and email subject/body if the nomination is for **less than 10** years of experience or **more than 10** years of experience.

Master's Thesis Award

Purpose of the Award: To recognize outstanding research by graduate students from WAEA institutions. This award will be made annually at the WAEA meeting.

Nature of the Award: The award will be called "Outstanding Graduate Thesis Award from the Western Agricultural Economics Association." This award will be made annually at the WAEA meeting. The winner will receive a certificate and a \$1,000 check.

Eligibility Requirements: Nominees must have completed the master's degree at a WAEA institution during the 2023 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, and
- (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 of the thesis needs to be emailed to the chair of the selection committee as a single pdf file. The letter of nomination should summarize the research of the nominee with respect to the criteria outlined above.

Send nominations in pdf form to Jada Thompson (graduate paper) at jt074@uada.edu

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 publications that appeared in print copies in 2023 will be considered (i.e., bearing a 2023 publication date when printed in the journal). 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 within the WAEA’s geographic scope.
- (2) A single pdf file of the nomination materials should be emailed to the chair of the selection committee.
- (3) Selection of the award winner(s) will be made by a committee.

Send nominations in pdf form to Berna Karali at bkarali@uga.edu.

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 at the WAEA meeting and winner(s) will receive a plaque.

- (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 eight 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 eight years duration.

Eligibility Requirements: Nominee(s) must be actively involved in programs of outreach/Extension 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 program to the target audience (audience demand, identified problem, etc.),
- (2) Effectiveness of the program in terms of achievement of results/outcomes for the target audience,
- (3) Appropriateness and effectiveness of program outputs (materials, videos, etc.),
- (4) Effectiveness of program communication and promotional methods, and
- (5) Evidence of accomplishment of program objectives and short, medium, and long-term target audience impact(s) (as appropriate).

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 as a single pdf file 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 Karina Gallardo at karina_gallardo@wsu.edu, and clarify in the letter and email subject/body if the nomination is for the project or career award.

9. Call for WAEA Fellow Award Nominations

Deadline: February 16, 2024

Send Applications to Stephen Devadoss, Stephen.Devadoss@ttu.edu

Purpose of the Award: Grant the highest recognition to members making an enduring contribution over their career to agricultural or other type of applied, resource, and/or environmental economics in the Western states and the WAEA.

Nominees must be a current member of the association and have demonstrated active involvement over their career as a member of the association (no specific number of years is required, but this is considered a career-spanning award representing work and involvement across decades).

Nominees must demonstrate 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), and/or
- (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 a nomination no later than midnight, **February 16, 2024**.

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.

A nominee must be a current member of the association, and the nomination packet must also include a description of the nominee's years of membership and activities in the WAEA (serving on the executive committee/council, award committees, editorial council, and regular attendance of WAEA).

The total nomination package will be limited to a maximum of eight typed, double-spaced pages and should be submitted as a single pdf file.

10. WAEA Outstanding Seniors

The WAEA Outstanding Senior Award recognizes outstanding undergraduate seniors who have achieved academic excellence at their institution and are expected to make important contributions to western agricultural, resource, and/or environmental economics in their career. One senior-standing student may be selected by each degree granting institution in the 19 western states of the United States (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) and four western provinces of Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan). Each department makes their own eligibility criteria, selection process, and outstanding senior award decision. Award winners will receive a certificate and recognition in the WAEA awards program and on the WAEA website. Certificates are mailed to each department rather than the student.

Please email 1) the name of the student selected by your department for this award and 2) the address to send the certificate to Karina Schoengold (kschoengold2@unl.edu) by no later than **March 31**,

2024.

I hope you all have a relaxing and fun-filled holiday with family and friends! The committee chairs, Executive Council, and I look forward to receiving many selected paper, symposium, and award submissions!

If you have any questions or concerns about the WAEA or information contained in this newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me by e-mail (kschoengold2@unl.edu). Our next newsletter will arrive in the spring with more details on our upcoming conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Karina Schoengold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Karina Schoengold
WAEA President 2023-2024