Rosson’s Roundup

As you may recall, I spent the first part of the week in Washington, DC. The Texas – Cuba Trade Alliance held a workshop there on Exporting to Cuba. We had about 35 people attend, with a few Congressional staff, some agency representatives, and attorneys, but mostly businesses from the surrounding area and states. The interest in this issue is keen with the recent trip by Beyonce and Jay – Z to Cuba and of course, the fact there was much speculation that they traveled there illegally. But, they had a license, so all is well. And, that was much of our focus – what can and cannot be done in terms of doing business there and selling foods. I also went to the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA to report on a project we have with them and to introduce them to Glen Jones, Research Director of Texas Farm Bureau. He reported on his work with Texas Department of Transportation related to the Panama Canal Expansion and how that may affect Texas infrastructure.

We had dinner Tuesday evening with former student Aaron Hobbs, who is now President of R.I.S.E., Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment. He’s doing some very interesting work related to education of Congress and the public about how to protect the environment and also maintain a viable turf grass industry.

Former student Mary Ledman, formerly Keogh, was here Thursday to discuss her plans to return to Texas, continue her business as an independent dairy consultant and become more engaged with the Department. Mary has spent the past 20 years as a consultant after working for Kraft Foods for about two years. She’ll be letting me know what she plans to do and when she might move over the next few weeks. Her newsletter, Daily Dairy Report, is widely circulated and relied upon by numerous producers, businesses and government agencies. She can be reached at mary@dailydairyreport.com.

Thursday night I attended the FIRE Club spring networking dinner. Our student leaders, Lonna Dorman, President, Darwin Canales, Mason Maier and Justin Peters did a great job of organizing this event. Former student Travis Evans with Allen, Williford and Seale attended, along with Brien Smith of Traditions Wealth Advisors. About 20 of our current students were there, some seeking jobs others looking for internships for this summer. I heard a report on the Wall Street Journal This Morning that Cargill is planning to double its hires of agricultural graduates this year over last, and Monsanto is also stepping up their hiring. This is not completely surprising given inquires we’ve been receiving since last fall for new graduates.

Finally, this is Parents’ Weekend in Aggieland. The College Convocation is Saturday morning, followed by baseball against Mississippi State at 12:30 and the Maroon and White game at 2:00. Enjoy the events!
Position Announcements

Associate or Assistant Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia, Regional Economics  This position is a joint appointment between the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in DASS/CAFNR and the Harry S. Truman School of Public Affairs. Tenure home will be in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. The two units have a long history of collaboration and share several joint appointments. The position will be filled at the Associate (preferred) or Assistant Professor level. A PhD in a relevant discipline or interdisciplinary program is required. There is particular interest in candidates who will contribute to the development of greater understanding among students, faculty and the general public about the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change. Applicants should provide: An application letter highlighting key areas of strength in the applicant’s background and summarizing the fit of applicant with the position, a current CV, contact information for at least four professional references, examples of scholarly work (e.g., publications, papers presented at professional meetings, etc.), and if applicable, experience related to teaching (e.g., courses taught, statement of teaching philosophy, summary of student evaluations, etc.). Please visit http://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic/index.php to submit an application. Questions regarding this position should be directed to: Dr. Judith Stallmann, Chair, Regional Economics Search Committee, 231 Gentry Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211, stallmannj@missouri.edu, 573-882-6455.

Assistant Professor, International Development, Michigan State University, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. 100% research. The Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at Michigan State University is seeking an Assistant Professor to join the Food Security Group (FSG) under the project titled “Strengthening Impact Assessment of the CGIAR” (SIAC). Candidates are expected to have a Ph.D. in agricultural economics, economics, or related field. Research experience in Africa, Asia, or Latin America is also highly desirable. Foreign language skills are an asset. Review of applications begins on April 29, 2013 and will continue until the position is filled. To apply, please refer to Posting #7559 and complete an electronic submission at the Michigan State University Employment Opportunities website https://jobs.msu.edu. Applicants must submit the following materials electronically: (1) a cover letter summarizing qualifications for the position and a statement of interest; (2) a current curriculum vitae; and (3) three reference letters. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2013, and continue until the position is filled. If you have any questions prior to submitting an electronic application, please contact Mywish Maredia, Chair of the Search Committee, AFRE at maredia@msu.edu. For information about the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics click on http://www.aec.msu.edu/.

Click here for more position announcements

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to submit articles and photos on current events. Deadline for all submissions is noon, Thursday. Please send your information to valnoyes@tamu.edu