Congratulations and Best Wishes: Monday marks the end of an era - Michele Zinn will retire from full time employment in the Department of Agricultural Economics on September 1 after 26 years service to the University, 24 of those years with the department. Michele joined the department working with Ron Lacewell and Ron Griffin in the last century (1990). The department is deeply indebted to her and her contributions across the department, college and university, including working with students and assisting with manuscripts, travel and basic mentoring. Michele always goes above and beyond as evidenced by receiving the Staff Advisory Committee Award as well as the Universities Council on Water Resources Appreciation Award. We have only best wishes for Michele as she enjoys new found freedom and opportunity to volunteer even more. Thanks for a career well done and your dedicated service.

Congratulations to Marco Palma who will be tenured, effective September 1, 2014. Please congratulate Marco on his achievement.

Congratulations to Ken Hogan, ’98 (AGEC), who has been selected to receive the COALS Outstanding Early Career Alumni Award. Ken is the Head of Foreign Exchange at Cadence Bank/Global Markets in Houston. I have corresponded with Ken and he is both excited and honored to be receiving this award at the College ceremony on October 25. He referred to this as the distinction of a lifetime. Congratulations to Ken for this great honor. The press release has been posted to AgriLife Today - http://today.agrilife.org/2014/08/27/college-of-agriculture-and-life-sciences-names-outstanding-alumni/ - and the College site - http://aglifesciences.tamu.edu/blog/2014/08/27/college-of-agriculture-and-life-sciences-names-outstanding-alumni/.

Thanks and farewell to Shelly Peacock who has resigned to take another position. I want to thank her for her service to the Department of Agricultural Economics and acknowledge that she went above and beyond for the students. I also wish her all the best in her new career and hope she has every success. Shelly will remain with us for another month helping out with the transition in the graduate office. Thank you, Shelly, for all you have done to support us.

As you all know, classes start Monday, so please welcome our students. As in the past, I’ll be visiting many of your classes to welcome students. I will send a note to those I plan to visit, and will try to get this done within the first two weeks of the semester.

Friday, September 12, the Department will host a pre-tailgate social event from 3:30 until 5:00 p.m. We will have food and drink, along with great fellowship. All faculty, staff and graduate students are invited to attend the event that will be located under the big tent just north of the AGLS building. I hope all of you can join us!

Saturday, September 13, we will have a Tailgate event Saturday afternoon before the Rice game. Please join us in welcoming our former students back to campus and in networking with them and our current students. Watch your e-mails for opportunities to RSVP (please reply either Yes or No) for both of these days’ department activities so that we can have accurate number counts for the food and beverages. Bring your family!

Have a great weekend, and enjoy all the excellent football match-ups! It’s strange writing this AFTER the Aggies have won a game. We seem set to have a very interesting season.
Upcoming Birthdays
Debbie Childs 8/31
John Penson 9/1
Gene Nelson 9/9
Rebekka Dudensing 9/14
David Leatham 9/15

Thank You!!
Department Head Office
for hosting Friday Coffee

New Publication
Encyclopedia of Agriculture and Food Systems
Editor-in-Chief: Neal K. Van Alfen
Associate Editor for Economics and Social Science: John P. Nichols
ISBN: 978-0-08-093139-5, Copyright © 2014 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. See the link below for access to the full list of authors, chapter titles and related information.
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/referenceworks/9780080931395#ancpt0010

Position Announcements

Loan Assistant/Specialist (Agricultural). FSA has another Farm Loan Officer Trainee (FLOT) vacancy announcement. This one is to be located in the Rio Grande Valley at our office in Edinburg. 1 position to be hired as EITHER: Farm Loan Officer Trainee or Farm Loan Officer. Hidalgo County FLP Team, Edinburg, Texas. Closing Date: September 2, 2014. GS-1165-05/07 - FLOT Link: https://my.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/378936000 Announcement number: FSA-14-0488-TX-VB (Open to all sources) GS-1165-09 - FLOT Link: https://my.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/378936100 Announcement number: FSA-14-0489-TX-VB (Open to all sources)

Assistant Professor of Agribusiness, Texas A&M University-Commerce, The assistant professor of agribusiness is a tenure track position and will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in agribusiness, agricultural economics, and general agriculture. The assistant professor will serve as advisor for undergraduate agribusiness majors. Ph.D. or DBA in agribusiness, ag economics, or closely related discipline, with at least 18 semester hours of graduate coursework in agribusiness or agricultural economics. Contact Person:Dr. Jose Lopez Phone:903-886-5623 Email Address: Jose.Lopez@tamuc.edu Apply URL: https://jobpath.tamu.edu/postings/74612

Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University, Agricultural Marketing, Agribusiness, Production. This is a 12-month, 85% Extension, 15% teaching tenured track appointment in the Department of Agricultural Economics. A Ph.D. in agricultural economics or economics with specific training in agricultural marketing, agribusiness management, production economics, farm management, and/or related topics. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, official transcripts of all college and university work, and have three professional letters of reference sent to: Mrs. Debra Price, Department of Agricultural Economics, Box 5187, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (or by email to Price@agecon.msstate.edu). Applicants must complete the Personal Data Information form found at www.jobs.msstate.edu. (Search postings for PARF# 7880). For more information about this position and the Department of Agricultural Economics contact Steve Turner (turner@agecon.msstate.edu, 662-325-2049). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled with initial screening and interview arrangements to begin on October 15, 2014.

Click here for 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