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Upcoming Events

June 2015

- 1st-4th-Consumer Economics position interviews
- 2nd-Summer I Session begins
- 5th-Faculty Meeting 1:30 p.m.

Rosson's Roundup

Today, I'd like to summarize the results of our undergraduate survey conducted a couple of weeks ago. Just below one-half of our graduates were off-campus transfer students, a component of our program that's been very important for a number of years. Of the 140 students who graduated May 15, 47 percent received degrees in Agribusiness. Out of 74 receiving degrees in Agricultural Economics, 22 percent were in the Finance and Real Estate option, 13 were in Food Marketing and Sales, 11 in Policy and Economic Analysis and six percent were in Rural Entrepreneurship. About 70 percent of our graduates had permanent employment, were considering their options, or were headed to graduate school or the US Army. These numbers are very consistent with the last several years.

The types of employment opportunities our students are pursuing are quite diverse. Positions include economic analyst, financial advisor, consultant, manager, marketing specialist, real estate appraiser, sales person, and oil/gas and construction employees. Salaries were also very interesting. About 25 percent of our students received salaries ranging from \$31,000-\$40,000 annually. Another quarter received salaries from \$41,000-\$50,000 per year. Ten percent of salaries were in the \$51,000 to \$60,000 range, while another ten percent ranged from \$61,000 to \$70,000. The top ten percent of salaries were \$71,000 and above. Almost one-half of our undergraduates participated in an internship program. I'm wondering if there's a strong correlation between placement/salary and internship participation. We need to explore this a bit further, but I strongly suspect there is.

Student comments about how course work prepared them for various tasks and abilities are also interesting and provide some insight into how well we are accomplishing the things we believe are important. All of our students indicated that their courses prepared them to solve problems that involved evaluating, analyzing and integrating information. Almost 96 percent indicated they were prepared to engage in ethical behavior and business practices. About 97 percent of our students believed they can effectively operate as a team member and consider varying points of view, while 94 percent think they are well prepared with effective writing and speaking skills. While we still have some work to do to improve these various areas, I'm highly encouraged by the results of this survey. Thanks to our faculty, teaching assistants, and Undergraduate Office staff who make this happen! The full survey results will soon be posted on our web site.

Have a great weekend, and remember, despite all the rain we've had this week, there is a regional baseball tournament starting today at noon. Coastal Carolina and Cal play at noon, while the Aggies host Texas Southern at 6 p.m.

REMINDER: Jojo Estrada (Texas Comptroller's Office) and Craig Carpenter (Michigan State) have interviews for the Assistant Professor and Extension Economist position in Community Economics and Business Development. Seminars are Monday and Wednesday mornings at 9:45 in 301 AGLS, with open faculty meetings to follow. I hope you can all attend.

When hay producers can mix fertilization and timely rains on an established hay meadow, they can expect the result will be a good quality hay cutting. The excessive rains we've experienced for the first five months of this year certainly can't be thought of as timely. Some areas have already received what is considered our normal annual rainfall total, and that's hampering hay production. A hay producer's season, usually in our area, end of April 'til first of October, they try to get thirty day intervals of cutting grass. If there is a weather delay, hay producers can lose that thirty day cycle, so that grass may be growing and it may get over-mature before they can get it off the ground. Normally it takes about three days to cut and bale hay. Lack of sun and heat hasn't helped. Multiple days in a row of sun and heat are needed to help boost the grass along to get it in its growth spurt and to the stage it needs to be to be harvested. Timing is important in hay production. The longer a crop of hay stands in the field before it can be harvested, the value goes down. The tonnage may go up, but it becomes less value as far as a marketable product to the consumer. If it's a sixty day old crop, for instance, the protein in it has dropped tremendously versus a thirty day old crop of hay. Producers won't know until this fall if they were able to put up enough quality hay to supply their customers.

Upcoming Birthdays

<i>Luis Ribera</i>	<i>6/3</i>
<i>Mark Waller</i>	<i>6/5</i>
<i>Kerry Litzenberg</i>	<i>6/10</i>
<i>Joe Outlaw</i>	<i>6/11</i>



*The next Friday Coffee will be held
on June 5th!*

*There will be a special announce-
ment, so please plan to attend!!*

Position Announcements

Assistant Professor of Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of Tennessee, Institute of Agriculture. This is a full-time, 12-month, tenure track position: 80% research (UT AgResearch), 20% teaching (College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources) appointment. The successful candidate will: 1) develop a nationally recognized research program focusing on agricultural/agribusiness finance and risk management; 2) teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses; 3) publish in high quality disciplinary and multidisciplinary journals; 4) acquire extramural funding; 5) mentor and supervise undergraduate and graduate students; and 6) participate in service activities of the Department, Institute, University, and profession. Qualifications: Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Finance or closely related field. The successful candidate will have excellent research, teaching, communication and quantitative skills and a willingness to work in multidisciplinary teams. Application: Screening of applicants will begin July 15, 2015 and continue until a suitable candidate is identified. To apply, send a current curriculum vita, a letter describing your interest in the position and your qualifications, and official transcripts to the address below. Arrange for three letters of reference to be mailed or e-mailed directly to: Dr. T. Edward Yu (Email: tyul@utk.edu; Phone: 865-974-7411; Fax: 865-974-9492) Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, 314 Morgan Hall, 2621 Morgan Circle, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville Tennessee 37996-4518. Visit our website: <http://economics.ag.utk.edu>. Position available beginning September 1, 2015.

Chief Executive Officer, Illinois Farm Business Farm Management Association, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Campus. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is expected to provide leadership and vision to the activities of Illinois Farm Business Farm Management (FBFM) Association with the overall objective of assuring Illinois FBFM continues to be recognized as the leading resource for financial and business consulting services to farmers throughout Illinois. Required Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with emphasis in agribusiness, finance, accountancy, business administration or related field. M.S., MBA degree, or other advanced degree OR an equivalent combination of education and related experience sufficient to perform the essential functions of the job. Record of leadership and management. Interested candidates should prepare: (1) a letter expressing interests and addressing their accomplishments related to the qualifications for this position, (2) a resume, (3), a statement of leadership philosophy emphasizing their vision for an organization like FBFM and their ability to foster staff development and visions of innovative products and services, and (4) contact information for three professional references (include name, title, address, phone, email) by close of business July 17, 2015 to Melissa Warmbier (mwarmbie@illinois.edu). For additional information contact: Dr. Paul Ellinger, pellinger@illinois.edu, 217-333-5503.

[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