



Inside this Issue

- Rosson's Roundup
- Brown Bag Seminar
- Aggies for Fresh
- AGLS Tailgate
- Upcoming Birthdays
- Thank You
- Position Announcements



Upcoming Events

October

- 3rd-Aggies vs Bulldogs
- 6th-Retiree Coffee
- SKYP Lunch
- 7th-Aggies for Fresh
- 8th-AGEC Brown Bag
- Seminar AGLS 200

Rosson's Roundup

Monday morning began with the monthly breakfast meeting of the Department Heads Council. We gather to discuss common issues affecting us, possible solutions and then identify those things that we believe should be discussed with Dr. Mark Hussey or other AgriLife or College Administrators. We often discuss issues raised at the monthly meeting with the Provost.

Wednesday at noon I was on a panel with Drs. Elliott (PRTS), Wingenbach (ALEC) and Reed (HORT/ Associate Dean for Graduate Studies) to respond to a presentation by an international visitor on the promotion and tenure process in the Netherlands. Our visitor was Professor Martin Mulder, Head of the Chair Group of Education and Competence Studies, Wageningen University, the Netherlands. His presentation centered on the challenges for promotion and tenure of social scientists in a science-based environment. While there are major differences between our system and his, there are also many similarities. Among the most important commonalities of our two systems are increasing accountability to the public, greater oversight by administration, more important roles for faculty input in the process, increased use and reliance on metrics and finally, the need for more funding to support research programs. One thing I noticed that was very different between our systems is that Wageningen has a very high degree of quantification of metrics—much of it set by federal government standards due to greater reliance of funding from centralized national sources. Which is best? I have no idea. Their system works well for the most part, but it's how they've been conditioned and prepared for it. Our system isn't perfect, but I like the fact that we do an excellent job of mentoring younger faculty and that we also evaluate our faculty based on individual job responsibilities rather than an overall national standard.

Thursday I was in Fort Worth for a meeting with several faculty from Northwestern University Transportation Center and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. The NUTC has been working on some analyses of the upper Midwest rail network and how to improve efficiency. Thursday's meeting was to present some of the key findings and receive feedback on a way forward. We seemed to have accomplished that objective and are now going to conduct additional analyses.

UPDATE: The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Tailgate is scheduled for October 17 at the AgriLife Complex three hours prior to kickoff of the Alabama game. More will follow very soon.

Have a great weekend and BTHO Mississippi State!!

Mintewab Bezabih

Research Officer at the London School of Economics and
Research Associate with The Environment for Development Initiative



Brown Bag Seminar: Property Rights and the Economic Impacts of Climatic Factors on Ethiopian Agriculture

This paper assesses the impacts of weather realizations and variations in climate on agricultural revenue of farm households in Ethiopia, and the mitigating impact of enhanced property rights. We find that temperature effects are distinctly non-linear but the pattern of non-linearity differs across crops. Rainfall variables, both short and long term, have consistently positive effects on the crop and farm level revenues, highlighting the exclusively rain-fed nature of Ethiopian agriculture. We find that long-term effects are not statistically different from short term, indicating lack of optimal adaptation to climate change or different adaptation strategies against short and long term impacts. The land certification intervention consistently reduced the effects of both short and long term climate variables on agricultural revenue, indicating the importance of secure property rights to aid in adapting to climate change.

3 pizzas will be available for \$1/ slice on a first come first serve basis.

Thursday
October 8th
12:30 pm
AGLS 301

AGGIES FOR FRESH

You are invited

to an
Informational & Networking Reception

hosted by Aggies for Fresh

The Aggies for Fresh team is excited to connect with students seeking a rewarding career opportunity.

Aggie alumni and CEO Dan'l Mackey Almy '94 will share about her dynamic career and the vast opportunities that are available to

Aggies in fresh food that extend far beyond farming.

She will also share the mission of Aggies for Fresh and be available to provide guidance to students wanting to connect.

Please join us for fresh appetizers and drinks following the event!

October 7 | 6:30-7:30pm | AGLS 129

RSVP: aautrey@dma-solutions.com

First 50 to RSVP will receive a Aggies For Fresh swag bag.

LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE TAILGATE 2015
OCT. 17
Texas A&M vs. Alabama
3 hours prior to kickoff
SOLVING THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS IS OUR SUPER POWER
#AGLStailgate
aglifsciences.tamu.edu/2015-tailgate
AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
556 John Kimbrough Blvd.
College Station, TX 77843

Upcoming Birthdays

Dan Hanselka	10/10
Michele Zinn	10/10
Tracy Davis	10/14
John Nichols	10/20



Thank You!!

Commons
Committee

for hosting Friday coffee



Position Announcements

Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Agricultural Economics and Economics, College of Agriculture and College of Letters and Science, Montana State University. The successful candidate for this tenure-track position will provide high-quality teaching of DAEE undergraduate environmental, natural resources and general economics courses and possibly master's level courses. Ph.D. in Economics, Agricultural Economics or related discipline prior to the starting date. Applicants should submit the following materials via econjobmarket.org (1) a letter of application addressing the required and preferred qualifications listed above, (2) a curriculum vita, (3) a copy of graduate transcripts, (4) a job market paper, (5) evidence of teaching experience and effectiveness, and (6) three letters of reference. For additional information, contact econadmin@montana.edu, (406) 994-3701; internet: www.montana.edu/econ. Screening will begin November 1, 2015.

Deputy Chief Economist for Policy Analysis, Office of the Chief Economist, USDA. Position closes October 20, 2015. For more information go to: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/417344000>

[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