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Upcoming Events

January

- 12th-14th-Extension Conference
- 18th-MLK Holiday
- 19th-Spring semester starts
- 20th-Faculty meeting

Rosson's Roundup

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable, relaxing break. As we prepare for the new semester, I want to encourage you to welcome our students back to campus.

Next week is the Extension Conference, January 12-14. The theme is Growing a Healthy Texas. One of the highlights of this event is the awards ceremony held Tuesday evening at the Brazos Expo Center. Other programs for the conference are being held at the Hilton.

We will have several in our unit recognized with Superior Service Awards Tuesday evening. Mac Young, Program Specialist in Corpus Christi will receive the Individual Award, Marco Palma will receive an Extension Team Award and our entire Extension Economics group will receive the Unit Award for their efforts on the 2014 farm bill. Congratulations to all who have worked so hard to earn these well-deserved accolades for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension's highest honor!

Some highlights from last year included our graduation of 266 students. We graduated 220 undergraduates and 46 graduates. Our placement was strong with more than 70 percent having secured employment upon graduation. For undergraduates, salaries ranged from the mid \$20,000s to upper \$60,000s. One-fifth of our undergraduate students had positions in real estate, mostly appraisal. This was the single largest category of placement for us. Other major areas of employment were banking and finance, management and sales. We also had several students take positions as analysts, consultants, marketers, military officers and agricultural producers. The diversity of placement is broad and growing, with potential to have more students move into many of these fields and some others such as financial planning, commercial banking, public service and other areas of real estate.

The diversity of our student body has also changed over the past several years. We are now almost 40 percent female and nearly one-fifth minority. Our undergraduate female student body has increased by 62 percent since 2012, while minorities have grown 76 percent. For our graduate students, we are 44 percent female and 56 percent minority. Female graduate enrollment has increased 17 percent since 2012, while minorities have increased 19 percent. I think these gains are encouraging, reflecting the open, welcoming climate of the department and the strength of our programs. We have more gains to make in the future, but I believe our progress has been solid. Thanks to our undergraduate and graduate office staff and leadership for leading this effort.

Again, welcome back and I look forward to seeing many of you at the Extension conference next week. Have a great weekend!

CHOICES

A publication of:  **AAEA**
Agricultural & Applied
Economics Association

What Do We Mean by Value-added Agriculture?

Ruoxi Lu and Rebekka Dudensing

Adding value to agricultural products through processing, product segregation, and other avenues is important to small farms, consumers, and rural economies. However, definitions of "value-added" can be conflicting and confusing. This article adapts a comprehensive definition and conceptual framework to meet the needs of a variety of stakeholders

Upcoming Birthdays

David Ernstes 1/15
Suzy Pryor 1/20
Sandra Norman 1/24
John Siebert 2/01



Thank You!!

Commons Committee

for hosting Friday coffee



Position Announcements

Assistant/Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, Illinois State University. Full-time academic year (9-month) probationary tenure track position (75% teaching/25% research). Primary responsibility is teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the agribusiness program. Educational background in agribusiness, agricultural economics or closely related discipline. Candidates must have a completed doctorate or reasonably expect to complete a doctorate by May 15, 2016. Candidates must be able to demonstrate oral proficiency in the English language as a requirement for this position, as mandated by state law. To assure full consideration, apply online to posting number 0707368 at <http://www.jobs.IllinoisState.edu> and send a letter of application, full vitae including transcripts, and contact information for three references by February 15, 2016 to: Mrs. Kathy Scott, Administrative Assistant to the Chair, Campus Box 5020, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-5020, Phone: (309) 438-5655, FAX: (309) 438-5653, E-mail: kjscot2@ilstu.edu

Assistant Professor, University of Florida, Food and Resource Economics Department seeks to fill a 12-month tenure-accruing position for an Assistant Professor with research and extension interests related to Fisheries / Aquaculture Governance. This position will be 60% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service), and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experimental Station), available in the Food and Resource Economics Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. This assignment may change in accordance with the needs of the unit. A doctorate (foreign equivalent acceptable) in Natural Resource Economics, Environmental Economics, Agricultural Economics, Applied Economics, Economics or a closely related discipline is required. Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/495617> and submit: Application, Cover letter that states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the credentials listed above, Curriculum vitae, Contact information (including email addresses) for 3 individuals willing to write letters of recommendation, Unofficial transcripts. This position is available July 1, 2016. For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit materials by 29 February 2016.

Lecturer, University of Florida, This is a 12-month non-tenure-accruing position that will be 100% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences), available in the Food and Resource Economics Department, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. An M.S or M.A. (foreign equivalent acceptable) in Agricultural Economics, Economics or Finance or a closely related discipline is required. Candidates with a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, Finance or a closely related field are invited to apply. For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by January 15, 2016. For More Information and to Apply: <http://explore.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/495232> For general questions email Brandon McFadden at: brandon.mcfadden@ufl.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