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Upcoming Events

April

- 25th-FEC Meeting
- 27th-Administrative Professionals Day
- 29th-Seminar Eng-Life Workshop

Rosson's Roundup

It's often interesting how similar ideas come together from very different perspectives. On Tuesday I, along with other department heads from Texas A&M AgriLife and Engineering, met at the Texas A&M Foundation to participate in a ½ day workshop. The focus of this event was to help us be more effective fund raisers. There are numerous concepts related to this, but the key thing that was apparent to me was the need to develop and deliver more effective communications materials to our potential donors. Our messages need to be clear, concise, simple, emotive and then, WOW! What do I mean by WOW? That's the "hook" that compels prospective donors, constituents or other audiences to care enough about our message to keep reading and not glance over the key points, or worse yet, toss the message into the trash.

Thursday, Flynn Adcock and I attended a beef packing technology research group workshop at the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) HQ in Washington, DC. Sonny Ramaswamy was our lead-off speaker. His message to us: Be more effective communicators! He stressed the importance of developing a clear, straightforward message, devoid of disciplinary jargon, and to the point. Agriculture and the land-grant system is well equipped to do this, but we often leave this last crucial step in our educational process undone. His challenge to us as researchers, extension specialists and administrators was to be better communicators so we can more effectively get our message to the public and ultimately influence adoption of the great science we develop. We were also told to be looking for new NIFA projects focusing on antimicrobial reduction and research, education and extension programs targeting small farms and businesses trying to comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act. These are both under the overall Food Safety Program.

Have a great weekend! Aggie baseball is at Olsen Field hosting Alabama on Friday-Sunday, while the Aggie softball team is on the road for a Saturday-Monday series at Missouri.

Sihong Chen

PhD Candidate, Texas A&M University

Body Mass Index in Chinese Families: Spousal Correlation and Intergenerational Transmission

This study presents spousal and intergenerational correlations in body mass index (BMI) of Chinese families from 1991 to 2011. We use socioeconomic and behavioral control variables to explain an individual's BMI, and consider two alternative methods for dealing with possible endogeneity due to omitted variables: (1) including spousal variables to proxy for omitted variables and (2) modeling spousal BMI in a hierarchical framework to explicitly allow for a "couple" effect. We find spousal and parents' BMI are strong predictors in regressions, and document the effect of education changes over time.

Friday, April 29th
1:00 pm
AGLS 301

Texas A&M Eng-Life Workshop

Friday, April 29, 2016
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Emerging Technologies Building (ETB)
Room 2005

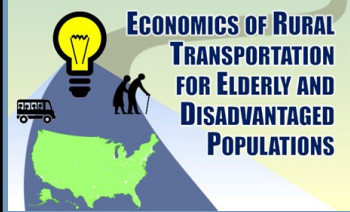
This all-day workshop promotes multidisciplinary interaction and scientific communication in the field of engineering and life sciences. Texas A&M faculty and researchers, their students (graduate and undergraduate), and postdoctoral researchers are invited to attend. Attendance is free, but registration is required. Register by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 26 at: https://u.tamu.edu/ENG-LIFE_Apr2016_Reg

Upcoming Birthdays

Ximing Wu	4/26
Loren Burns	5/2
Gary Williams	5/6
Donna Adcock	5/13



Performance evaluations for non-faculty employees are due by May 31, 2016. **The Department internal deadline is Monday, May 20, 2016** in order to finalize the online process by the 31st. A matrix showing evaluation time periods, forms, and due dates is in the Performance Management section at: <http://agriflifeas.tamu.edu/documents/evaluation-matrices.pdf>
Thank you for your cooperation!



An USDA-sponsored economics conference within the

National Conference on Rural Public &

Intercity Bus Transportation
Asheville, NC, October 2-5, 2016

Call for Participants (Funding Available)

To apply, a statement of interest and a two-page vita should be submitted to Rebekka Dudensing at rmdudensing@tamu.edu by May 16, 2016 or until space is filled. Interested applicants may also learn more at <http://communities.tamu.edu/ruraltransportation/>.

Thank You!!
Dr. Nichols, Dee,
and Jennifer B.

for hosting Friday coffee



Coffee Fellowship

Position Announcements

Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics (12-month tenure-track, 75% Extension, 25% Research). Agricultural and Resource Economics, Institute of Agriculture, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. Position available beginning July 1, 2016. Screening of applicant credentials will begin May 15, 2016. Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, Business, or a closely related field is required. Attach the following electronic documents and e-mail them to dhughe17@utk.edu: • Curriculum vita; • Letter detailing your interest in the position; • Official transcript(s); • Arrange for three letters of reference to be e-mailed to dhughe17@utk.edu or mailed directly to: Dr. David W. Hughes, Search Committee Chair, Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics, 2621 Morgan Circle, 227B Morgan Hall, The University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN 37996-4518. Phone: (865) 974-7463, Fax: (865) 974-9492, TTY/TTY/TTD: (865) 974-7245. Web Site: <http://economics.ag.utk.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