I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome Craig Carpenter to the Department of Agricultural Economics. Craig started his position as Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist – Community Economics and Business Development on June 1. Craig received his PhD from Michigan State University and is accompanied by his fiancé, Zari. He is located in room 337 AGLS and asks that you stop by to say Howdy.

We had 151 students who completed the graduation survey. Thanks to our great staff in the undergraduate office, we have survey results from these students. Almost 40 percent of our graduates were female. About 62 percent were Agricultural Economics graduates, with Finance and Real Estate being the most popular option with 59 students. Food Marketing Systems had 14 graduates, while Rural Entrepreneurship had 12. We also had 57 students graduate with degrees in Agribusiness. Slightly more than one-half of our graduates were off-campus transfers, while 40 percent were on-campus change of majors. About one-fifth of our graduates took positions in sales and marketing. The next largest category was 15 percent who went into management, followed by finance/banking at 14 percent, then analyst positions, consultants, real estate, oil/gas, public service, construction and production agriculture. Salaries ranged from about $33,000 to more than $75,000, with the majority reporting a range of $41,000 to $60,000. I’ll have more on the results of this survey in another report, but just a taste for now.

Summer school got underway this week. There are 552 students enrolled in our 11 courses that are being offered. Nine of those courses are being taught online and have among the highest enrollment. We also have 35 interns placed this summer, with 29 of those located off campus. New student conferences are progressing well, with orientation sessions occurring almost daily.

This weekend expect traffic delays around Reed Arena. There are numerous high school graduation ceremonies, beginning this morning and continuing through Saturday night. Both Bryan high schools, along with Magnolia, Montgomery and Tomball will have students, families and friends in our area this weekend.

Next week is the 4-H Roundup here on campus—and more specifically, right here in the AgriLife Complex and Reed Arena. If you see young folks and their parents running around appearing to be lost, please help them out. The events begin Monday afternoon and continue through Thursday. Help welcome the 4 – H participants to AgriLife and Texas A&M!

NOTICE: Starting this week, we only published this newsletter every other week through mid-August. If something exciting or significant occurs, we will make an exception.

Finally, have a great weekend—hopefully the rain will hold off long enough for the Aggie baseball team to play a regional tournament!
Position Announcements

Associate Planner, The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is seeking to hire an Associate Planner to help advance the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). CMAP is our region’s official comprehensive planning organization. The Associate Planner will report to the Principal, Transportation Improvement Program. Minimum of Bachelor's degree (with Master's preferred) in transportation planning, transportation engineering, urban planning, public administration, or a related field. Three years of experience in transportation programming or a related field. Please submit cover letter and resume via the web at: http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/about/careers. Please refer to Job Code (TIP052016). This posting will close on July 1, 2016. All applications must be completed and submitted within that timeframe.

Postdoctoral Research Position in Water Resources, Department of Geography & Environmental Sustainability, University of Oklahoma, is seeking a one-year postdoctoral researcher to conduct non-market evaluation of ecosystem services in the US Rio Grande River Basin and assess people’s willingness to pay to protect the river water resources. Start date: October 1, 2016 (or as soon as possible thereafter), Duration: 1 year (a possibility for a renewal might open, but is not anticipated right now), Salary: $60,000, Funding agency: US Geological Survey (USGS). Required qualifications: • PhD in one of the following areas: Environmental and Resource Economics, Economics, Agricultural Economics, Ecological Economics, Environmental Sustainability, Environmental Sciences, Operations Research, or a related field, • Applied experience with contingent valuation methodology. Applicants should send the following materials by email to Dr. Jad Ziolkowska at jziolkowska@ou.edu (1) cover letter (max. 2 pages) describing research experience and how the applicant’s skills can contribute to the project, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) one publication or working paper, and (4) names and contact information to three references. Initial review of applications will begin on June, 1st, 2016 and will continue until the position is filled. Informal interviews will be conducted at the 2016 AAEA meeting in Boston. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Jad Ziolkowska as soon as possible at jziolkowska@ou.edu for further details about this research opportunity.

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