

#### Volume 51, Number 19 Department of Agricultural Economics Texas A&M University May 20, 2016

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### Rosson's Roundup



<u>Upcoming Events</u> <u>May</u> 20th-Non-faculty Evaluations Due 30th-Memorial Day Holiday

First, I'd like to congratulate our Honors Graduates and Research Honors students who crossed the stage last Friday. Honors graduates in Agricultural Economics were Mason Alsbrooks, Joseph Alvarado, Katherine Carter, Chance Chapman, Cole Coen, Ryan Evers, Emilie Herbst, Madilyn Holmes, John Jenkins, Blake Ramsey, Andrew Smith, Katelyn Warnke and James Wick. Agribusiness Honors graduates included Richard Armstrong, Cody Dickerson, Mai Hamid, Camille Lepire, Katherine Paschal, Larson Parry and Rachel Victoria. Our Research Honors students were Ashley Carpenter, Madilyn Holmes and Rachel Victoria. Congratulations to all of you for your dedication, hard work and success!

Sunday evening and Monday I attended the Texas Ag Forum in Austin. Thanks to Joe Outlaw, Luis Ribera and David Ernstes for organizing the event. We heard from many of the Texas commodity organizations, such as grain sorghum and feeder cattle, as well as Texas Farm Bureau. David Ellis with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute provided a very clear perspective on the future of transportation in the state when he pointed out that the population here will double over the next 20 years, while the demand for transportation will expand four fold. This will place severe strains on all of the infrastructure in Texas and financing this growth will be a major challenge.

Thursday morning I attended the Grand Challenge Mini-symposium on Adaptation to Climate Change. Bruce McCarl did a great job of outlining the challenges and identifying some of the options to consider when thinking about ways producers may adjust to hotter, dryer weather over the next 50 years. Texas appears to sit in a transition zone, so I'm not sure if that's good, or bad news. It's encouraging to see our top AgriLife Scientists working on these issues and offering viable solutions.

Friday morning I met with Ramon Guajardo, Vice President for Agricultural Affairs, Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Ramon is a 1990 Agricultural Economics PhD graduate. He is here to explore how Texas A&M AgriLife Extension operates and whether or not it might be something that would work at his institution. Thanks to AFCERC and Gary Williams for organizing his visit.

The Texas Aggie baseball team got game one from Ole Miss Thursday night and continues the three game series tonight at 6:30, with Saturday's game set for 2 p.m. The Aggie softball team is at the Louisiana-Lafayette regional and plays the University of Texas at 3:30 today.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the respite from the rain for a day or two!

# **Upcoming Birthdays**

David Anderson Shahriar Kibriya Luis Ribera Mark Waller Caitlin Anderson



Ethan walks into a barn with a farmer to buy a horse.

The horse is laid down in some straw. After giving the horse the once-over Ethan says, "This horse hasn't got any shoes on."

The farmer replies "Well he hasn't got up yet.

## 2016 AGEC Project Group Meetings July 13 – 15, 2016 La Torretta Lake Resort Montgomery, Texas



**Reservation cut-off date is June 13, 2016** 

### **Position Announcements**

**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, Environ-mental 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.

**Analyst** with 21st Century Service Delivery group at MTA New York City Transit. Project scopes range from evaluating current operating practices that impact capacity to building cases for targeted investment and new technologies. The selected candidate will be a critical thinker and assist in leading our initiatives from strategic conception to consensus building and stakeholder management to the development of detailed implementation plans and schedules. Selected candidate will also analyze, synthesize, and interpret data, research industry best practices, prepare reports and presentations, facilitate meetings with external partners, and provide additional administrative support. Visit our website: <a href="http://web.mta.info/mta/employment/">http://web.mta.info/mta/employment/</a> Select: Job Postings, select NYC Transit, Search by Title for Transit Management Analyst Series/Transportation Planner Series (Department is Office of the President), Job ID: 86172

**Three Associate Research and Extension Director (ARED) positions**, University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. These administrative positons report to the Director of the Eastern Nebraska Research and Extension Center. To view the details and make application, go to <a href="https://employment.unl.edu">https://employment.unl.edu</a> and search for requisition #F\_160099 (Metro), #F\_160100 (Northeast), and/or #F\_160101 (Southeast). Click on "Apply to this job." Complete the application and attach a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three professional references. Review of applications will begin on June 10, 2016. Information regarding Research and Extension Centers and programs at the University of Nebraska can be found at <a href="http://ianr.unl.edu/research-extension">http://ianr.unl.edu/research-extension</a>.

### 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