

COSBAE

Newsletter of the Committee on the Opportunities & Status of
Blacks in Agricultural Economics

COSBAE is a Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association

June 2005

Volume 2 Issue 1

COSBAE at AAEA

Summer Meetings
Providence, R.I.
July 24-27, 2005

Business meeting

Sun. July 24, 2005

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***COSBAE at ERS
Bridging the Gap Workshop
Washington, D.C.
June 13-14, 2005
And
AAEA Annual Conference
Diversity in the Workplace Track
Providence, R.I.
July 24-27, 2005***

Message From The Chair

Christopher Davis

We are extremely ecstatic about COSBAE's accomplishments and its present direction. Members of COSBAE, particularly Keithly Jones, Doris Newton, Kenrett Jefferson-Moore, and Stephan Tubene have worked tirelessly to organize a symposium, workshop, track, and other activities to address different diversity issues. At the Southern Meetings in Little Rock, AR, COSBAE received excellent feedback and favorable support for the free session entitled, "Bridging the gap between minority feeder schools and universities and industry." Important factors that surround this gap were clearly articulated by panel members and we received extensive comments and concerns from the audience. Comments, concerns, and questions generated from the Southern Meetings will be incorporated in COSBAE's 2005 Workshop to determine the types of collaborations that can be formed to close the existing gap.

COSBAE's workshop is the next event before us. The workshop will convene on June 13 and 14, 2005 at the Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street NW, Washington DC. The title of the workshop is "Bridging the Gap between 1890 and 1862 Land-Grant Agricultural Economics Programs." The purpose of the workshop is to build alliances and collaborative linkages to bridge the institutional, funding, and operational gap between the 1890 and 1862 land-grants, and other institutions in agricultural economics research, teaching, and extension. We are encouraging all COSBAE members, 1890 and 1862 Presidents, Agricultural Administrators, and interested USDA employees to attend.

At the AAEA annual conference in Providence, RI, COSBAE and CWAE will have a “track” entitled “**Issues on Diversity in the Workplace**”. The objective of this track is to generate discussions on issues related to diversity in the agricultural economics discipline. Several issues will be covered, including the changing structure of the discipline, salary, promotion and advancement, hiring practices, recruitment, retention and work culture, among other things. Topics covered will include, but not limited to, the changing society and the workplace, managing and valuing diversity, and barriers to managing diversity. The following sessions are planned: 1) The Status and Progress of Women and African Americans in the Agricultural Economics Profession; 2) Diversity within the Agricultural Economics Discipline; 3) Recruitment and Retention of Students, Faculty, and Staff; 4) Bridging the Between Gap Feeder Schools and Universities and Institutions.

In addition to the track, COSBAE and CWAE are sponsoring a luncheon during the conference on Tuesday, July 26, 2005. The Keynote speaker for the luncheon is Dr. Clifton Wharton, Former Chairman and CEO TIAA-CREF and AAEA Fellow. COSBAE will culminate the luncheon by recognizing its next group of outstanding Black Agricultural Economists. Other activities such as COSBAE’s business meeting and reception are also planned for the Summer Meeting in Providence, RI. Please check the program for starting times of track sessions, business meeting, and reception.

As we reflect on COSBAE’s many achieves and the people who have served COSBAE faithfully, we are sadly reminded of the passing of Mr. Samuel Calhoun. His contributions to COSBAE and Economic Research Service will be forever remembered!

Thanks for your cooperation and we look forward to your continued support in the near future.

Christopher G. Davis, COSBAE Chair

COSBAE Will Host a Workshop at USDA

by Keithly Jones, Professional Activities Chairman

COSBAE Workshop To Begin Dialogue on Bridging Gap Between 1890 and 1862 Land Grant Institutions Agricultural Economics Program

The Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics (COSBAE) will hold a workshop on “Bridging the Gap between 1890 and 1862 Land-Grant Agricultural Economics Programs” on June 13 and 14, 2005 at the USDA-Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street N.W., Washington DC. The workshop is geared for leaders in agricultural economics and its purpose is to build alliances and collaborative linkages to bridge the institutional, funding, and operational gap between the 1890 and 1862 land-grant colleges and universities, and other institutions in agricultural economics research, teaching, and extension.

The workshop is designed to set the wheels in motion for decreasing the under-representation of minorities, especially African Americans, in the Agricultural Economics profession by providing greater knowledge of the factors causing the gap between 1890 institutions (institutions that provide the undergraduate education in Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness for the majority of minorities) and the 1862 institutions that offer the terminal degrees in Agricultural Economics. It is hoped that a better understanding of these programs will enhance the knowledge of the institutions involved (1890-land-grants, 1862-land-grants, ERS, CSREES, Farm Foundation and other agencies) and assist in alleviating the under-representation of minorities in the Agricultural Economics profession.

The 1890 institutions — predominantly minority-based land-grant institutions serve as the reservoir from which African Americans and other minorities in Agricultural Economics are drawn. But, in the past the number of students matriculating from 1890 institutions Agricultural Economics programs and continuing in graduate programs has been inadequate. This partially explains the small number of African Americans and other minorities with terminal degrees in Agricultural Economics and the high level of under-representation of minorities in agricultural economics academic and research professions. The 1890 institutions, 1862 —predominantly non-minority-based land-grant institutions, other research agencies and institutions, and the minority community will benefit from a dialogue on this important issue.

COSBAE/CWAE Track Planned for AAEA Meeting

COSBAE/CWAE TRACK

Name of Track: Issues on Diversity in the Workplace

Project Leaders: Keithly Jones* and Annette Levi**

*COSBAE and **CWAE

Location: AAEA Annual Meeting, Providence, RI

Date: July 24-27, 2005

Need for Track: As the demographic composition of the student population continues to change and as more women and minorities enter the workplace, the question of whether the agricultural economics discipline is adjusting at the same pace is considered. In addition, agricultural economics programs, themselves, have become more diverse. Agricultural economics departments are moving away from the once homogeneous production agriculture focus, to natural resources, community development, business, finance, etc. Concurrently, demand for a diverse workforce is increasing in government and nongovernmental organizations as well as the private sector. These changes create challenges in recruitment and retention for universities, government, and private industry.

Track Objectives: The objective of this track is to generate discussions on issues related to diversity in the agricultural economics discipline. Issues related to the changing structure of the discipline, salary, promotion and advancement, hiring practices, recruitment, retention and work culture, among other things, will be covered. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, the changing society and the workplace, managing and valuing diversity, and barriers to managing diversity. The following sessions are scheduled:

1. The Status and Progress of Women and African Americans in the Agricultural Economics Profession.

Diversity within the Agricultural Economics Discipline

Recruitment and Retention of Students, Faculty, and Staff

Bridging the Gap Between Feeder Schools and Universities and Institutions

Target Audience: The target audience spans the entire AAEA membership. Department chairs should be particularly interested in these sessions.

Call for Papers

Call for Qualifications:

Michigan State University and West Virginia University request proposals for white papers on themes relevant to community and regional development. The white papers should be twenty pages in length (single-spaced) or longer. Each paper is expected to be an original contribution providing an overview and summary of the literature on emerging issues and research approaches related to the following themes:

1. Environmental health and well-being
2. Economic development
3. Poverty, inequality, and social justice
4. Community and neighborhood involvement

More complete descriptions of the themes are presented below. One paper per theme will be funded at the level of \$2,000. Completed white papers will be posted on Michigan State University's Community Vitality web site. In addition, completed papers will receive automatic consideration as contributions to the Web Book of Regional Science. If accepted for the Web Book of Regional Science, authors will receive an additional payment of \$2,000.

Timeline:

May 9 Deadline to submit qualifications

May 16 Authors notified

June 24 Paper due

To Submit Qualifications:

E-mail vita(s), and a one to two page outline of the proposed contribution to Scott Loveridge, State Leader, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station Community Vitality Program at loverid2@msu.edu. In the case of multiple authors, specify order of authorship and percentage distribution of payment.

Sponsorship:

Papers are sponsored by the Michigan State University Community Vitality Program. Access information about the program at:

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cdnr/cvpoverview.htm>

Contributions to the Web Book of Regional Science are sponsored by West Virginia University's Regional Research Institute. Access information about the RRI and the Web Book of Regional Science at: <http://www.rri.wvu.edu/>

Extended Description of Themes

1. Environmental Health and Well-being. Communities exist in human-influenced environments and the health of those environments influences the health of the people who live in them. Where the natural environment is substantially degraded,

human illnesses may result. But the community also produces a social environment. Social conditions can produce regional concentrations of crime or stress-related illnesses. The design of buildings and the physical layout of a community may affect health and environmental outcomes. Some areas may have low crime rates but their physical appearance or lingering reputation for crime may scare off the new investments (personal, family, or business) that can stimulate better economic conditions. Certain types of low-polluting facilities, such as prisons and parks, can influence crime and disease patterns in nearby areas. Those who prefer healthy foods may find them difficult to obtain in communities where most of the people have poor eating habits.

2. Economic Development. Globalization and outsourcing are creating tremendous opportunities, risks and changes for the economic base of communities. The manufacturing sector in highly developed nations is shrinking as the service sector grows and as low-skill jobs move to places where labor is cheaper. Economies of scale and improvements in transportation networks have restructured almost every sector. Businesses in rural areas suffer from lack of access to broadband Internet service, as do the poor everywhere. Yet fast Internet access is a requirement for many of today's economic opportunities. Understanding the fiscal and economic impacts of job creation tools such as incubators, tax abatements, research and development assistance, workforce development, and infrastructure development are critical to maintain a competitive regional economy.

3. Poverty, Inequality, and Social Justice. The poor live in areas that are either very urban or very rural; a few older suburbs also are beginning to decline into poverty. In some communities, poverty is multi-generational; in other areas, recent immigrants strive to attain the American dream. Poor communities do not enjoy the same level of services or infrastructure as richer communities, putting children at a disadvantage in their mental and physical development. Poor communities often may have to overcome the additional disadvantages of high levels of pollution, fear or crime. A better understanding of how to create the appropriate mix of government, market and non-profit mechanisms to alleviate poverty is needed.

4. Community and Neighborhood Involvement. Community interaction in highly developed nations has undergone a dramatic shift. People no longer stay in the same community for generations. The Internet, cell phones and more media choices have added versatility and enriched lives in many ways, but also have contributed to a decline in the sense of connectedness to place. Community leaders struggle with low levels of trust, involving others in determining future directions for the community, and filling vital paid and volunteer public service roles. Trust and engagement are always important, but especially so in times of insecurity and in responding to disasters.

Job Announcements

***Instructor/Resident Instruction Assistant Professor
(Professional Track-9 Month Appointment)
University of Missouri-Columbia
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
Division of Applied Social Sciences
Department of Agricultural Economics***

The University of Missouri (MU) seeks applications and nominations for an Instructor/Resident Instruction Assistant Professor (9 month; non-tenure track) to support its undergraduate program in agribusiness. We seek candidates within the general specialty of agribusiness/agricultural economics who can offer courses in sales and new products marketing at the undergraduate level and contribute to a growing cluster of activity in the area of entrepreneurship. Applicants are expected to demonstrate teaching excellence. The position requires a MA/MS in agricultural economics, economics or other relevant social science discipline. Additional details, including application instructions, are available at: <<http://www.dass.missouri.edu/Announcements/Positions/>>. It is strongly recommended that submission of the application package be sent electronically to ageconsearch@missouri.edu <<mailto:ageconsearch@missouri.edu>>. Application material in hard copy should be sent to: Search Committee, Sales/Marketing Faculty Search, University of Missouri, Department of Agricultural Economics, 200 Mumford Hall, Columbia, MO 65211. Review of applications will begin on April 11, 2005 and will continue until the position is filled.

MU is an equal opportunity/ADA institution and encourages applications from women and minority candidates. To request ADA accommodations; please contact our ADA coordinator at (573) 884-7278, (V/TTY).

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Position: Assistant Extension Professor in Agricultural Economics with specialization in livestock/forage economics.

Location: University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

Job Description: This is a twelve-month, tenure track extension position in livestock/forage economics. The incumbent will collect, analyze, and disseminate production, management, and other economic information to build an extension program, with supporting applied research, to enhance the Kentucky livestock/forages industry. Programs targeted toward the equine, cattle, and small ruminant industries will be delivered through training and support of county extension staff, area farm management specialists, departmental faculty, and state specialists in other disciplines. Opportunities exist for collaboration with faculty in related disciplines. Support for this position is enhanced by a grant-funded extension associate.

Kentucky's agriculture economy is heavily dependent on its forage-based animal industries. It has over 40,000 farms with cattle; horse income is the largest sector of the state's agriculture economy, and the sheep and goat sectors are growing rapidly.

The successful applicant for this position will be expected to participate and take a leadership role in the College of Agriculture's Beef Integrated Resource Management (IRM) coordinating committee with other extension and research faculty, county agents, farm groups, and other farm professionals. A top priority of the IRM group is a record keeping and analysis program. Opportunities exist for development of similar initiatives with equine enterprises.

In addition to a county and state oriented educational program, the successful applicant will be expected to interact with professional colleagues at the regional and national levels. The successful applicant is expected to publish in the trade press, extension series and appropriate refereed outlets including professional journals. Undergraduate teaching opportunities may exist after the extension program is established.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics is required. The person in this position should have knowledge, interest and experience in the livestock/forages industry, must possess excellent oral and written communication skills, and should have evidence of leadership ability. The successful candidate should demonstrate an ability to work collaboratively with interdisciplinary teams. Candidates with experience in Extension beyond the Ph.D. will be given priority.

Salary: Salary open and competitive. Benefits include TIAA-CREF retirement, group health and life insurance, vacation, disability, and family leave. Out of state consulting leave is permitted, subject to approval.

Application: Application can be made by forwarding a vita, transcripts, and the names of three references to:

Dr. Lee Meyer, Search Committee Chair
Dept. of Agricultural Economics
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0276
Voice: 859/257-7272 x228 Fax: 859/323-1913
e-mail:lmeyer@uky.edu

or

EEO Coordinator
C-3 Agr. Science North
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0091

Closing Date: The search committee will begin screening applicants on May 9, 2005 and will continue until a qualified applicant is selected.

The University of Kentucky is an Equal Opportunity Employer

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Agricultural Economics is seeking candidates for an Assistant Professor, tenure leading, 12 month, 50% Extension and 50% Research position as a Community/Rural Economics Development Specialist. See <http://agecon.unl.edu> for more information on unit and a full description of the position. Research within the incumbent's disciplinary area will be applied to rural community and/or economic development issues relevant to Nebraska or geographic regions that include Nebraska. Synergy is expected between research and extension responsibilities. Specific focus of research activity will vary over time and be delineated in concert with Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. Research activities expected to culminate in published works, including peer reviewed papers and publications. Extension responsibilities will include the development of educational curricula in area of rural community and economic development. Interaction with relevant Cooperative Extension Teams, the Rural Initiative, and Center for Applied Rural Innovation is expected. Extension audiences will include general public and policy makers, and targeted clientele such as community leaders and extension professionals. Opportunities for teamwork and/or interdisciplinary activities with other colleagues will be sought. Seeking and pursuing opportunities for securing extramural funding (e.g. grants) is expected. Incumbent may be asked to perform additional duties by the Department Head. There is an expectation that service activities related to Department, Institute, University, the State of Nebraska, and incumbent's profession will be undertaken as needed. Requires a Ph.D. at time of employment in one of the following: regional economics, rural sociology, economic development, agricultural economics or a closely related field with specialization in rural economic development. Relevant experience in rural community/economic development required. Applicant will be expected to travel both in-state and out-of-state, often unaccompanied. Review of candidates will begin September 15, 2005 and continue until successful candidate is identified, or the search is closed.

Applicants should go to <http://employment.unl.edu> and complete the faculty/administrative form. Complete application materials including a resume; transcripts; and the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of three references should be sent to (electronic applications will not be accepted): Head, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, P.O. Box 830922, 102 H.C. Filley Hall, Lincoln, NE 68583-0922.

UNL is committed to a pluralistic campus community through affirmative action and equal opportunity; is responsive to the needs of dual career couples; and assures reasonable accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act. Contact Nancy Rekart at 402-472-3401, e-mail: nrekart@unl.edu for additional information or accommodation.

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation. AA/EEO details may be secured by contacting the Office of Equity, Access and Diversity Programs, 128 Canfield Administration Building, P.O. Box 880437, UNL, Lincoln, NE 68588-0437, or by phoning 402-472-3417. Employment eligibility verification is required for all new hires pursuant to the Immigration and Control Act of 1986.

*University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
College of Agricultural Sciences
Agricultural Extension Service
Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology*

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of position vacancy: **Assistant Professor**

Position description and responsibilities:

This is a regular tenure track position in Extension (outreach). The candidate is expected to collaborate with other faculty members (teaching and research), assist other specialists, train extension agents and advise other institutions, among other things.

Position Location:

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Agricultural Extension Service, College of Agricultural Sciences, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.

Required Qualifications:

Ph.D. degree in Agribusiness or Agricultural Economics with concentration in one of the following: agribusiness, agricultural marketing, agricultural product prices or agricultural production economics. The candidate should have a B.S. in Agricultural Economics or Agribusiness or in a closely related discipline.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Capacity to communicate effectively using oral, written and electronic methods in Spanish. Capacity to teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in agribusiness and agricultural economics, serve as advisor and research supervisor to graduate students. Demonstrated capacity to work cooperatively with people and with a minimum of supervision. Capacity for writing grant proposals for obtaining external funds for research. Demonstrated computer proficiency and skills in the application of econometrics and business programs. Capacity to travel normally, a valid driver's license is required. Perform any other reasonably related duties assigned by the Department Chair.

Salary:

Salary will be based on applicant's academic preparation according to U.P.R. wages table.

FRINGE BENEFITS: University retirement plan , health plan, vacation.

Closing date: July 15, 2005.

Application procedure: Candidates please submit a letter of intention, official university transcripts, *curriculum vitae*, and three references to:

Dr. Jorge A. González
Director Department of Agricultural Economics
College of Agricultural Sciences
PO Box 9030
Mayaguez P.R. 00681-9030

For more information you can email to: ecag@uprm.edu

UPRM is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants will be considered without discrimination for any non merit reasons such as race, color, ethnic group, religion preferences, gender, nationality, age or disability.

Autorizado por la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones.

*University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
College of Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology*

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of position vacancy: Assistant Professor

Position description and responsibilities:

This is a nine (9) month, regular tenure-track position in teaching. The candidate is expected to teach at least two courses per semester and collaborate with other faculty members in the outreach and research programs.

Position Location:

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, College of Agricultural Sciences, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

REQUIRED Qualifications:

Ph.D. degree in Agribusiness or Agricultural Economics with concentration in one of the following: agribusiness, econometrics, agricultural product prices or agricultural production economics.

responsibilities:

Capacity to teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in agribusiness and agricultural economics, serve as advisor and research supervisor to graduate students. Demonstrated capacity to create new undergraduate and graduate courses. Demonstrated computer proficiency and skills in the application of econometrics and business programs. Capacity to communicate effectively using oral, written and electronic methods. Demonstrated capacity for writing grant proposals for

obtaining external funds for research. Perform any other reasonably related duties assigned by the Department Chair.

Salary:

Salary will be based on applicant's academic preparation according to U.P.R. wages table.

FRINGE BENEFITS: University retirement plan, health plan, vacation.

Closing date: July 25, 2005

Application procedure: Candidates please submit a letter of intention, official university transcripts, curriculum vitae, and three references to:

Dr. Jorge A. González
Director Department of Agricultural Economics
College of Agricultural Sciences
PO Box 9030
Mayaguez P.R. 00681-9030

For more information you can email to: ecag@uprm.edu

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Autorizado por la Comisión Estatal de Elecciones.

***Millennium Challenge Corporation
Reducing Poverty Through Growth***

Short-term Agricultural Economics Consulting Services

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a new U.S. Government corporation, with headquarters in the Washington DC metropolitan area that provides incentive-based foreign assistance in support of economic growth and poverty reduction. For more information on the MCC, please visit www.mcc.gov.

The MCC is seeking to obtain short-term consulting services from individuals that are experts in all aspects of the agricultural investment project cycle including feasibility assessment, design, appraisal, and project evaluation in developing country situations. Examples of assignments could include feasibility assessment of MCC-eligible country agricultural proposals, consultation on design issues, financial and economic analysis of agricultural projects, special studies related to agricultural/natural resource components, assessment of agribusiness support and marketing services, working with local consulting firms, government ministry representatives or research entities carrying out agricultural activities, and evaluating coordination of MCC program design with foreign donor activities in

related areas. It is desirable for applicants to be fluent in French, Spanish, Portuguese or Russian.

Consulting services will be requested in the form of short-term technical assistance that could range from one day to one year in duration. The MCC is inviting interested persons to submit CV's and a brief cover letter describing their areas of expertise. The response should address proposed consultant rates on an hourly basis. The MCC will select multiple sources to provide agricultural consulting services on an intermittent basis. Selection of successful candidates will be based on technical capability, past performance, and price.

Offerors are required to be registered in Central Contractor Registration (www.ccr.gov) to be eligible for award of a contract with the Federal Government.

There is no commitment to a minimum or maximum amount of work implied by submitting an application nor will there be a guaranteed quantity of work implied by being accepted for contract award by the MCC.

Please email your resume to contractors@mcc.gov expressing interest in this requirement and include the words "agricultural economics" in the subject line. This is an open continuous position.

Tracy Hart, Ph.D, Senior Economist, Water & Urban, West & Central Africa, The World Bank

.Mail Stop J-11-1105, 1818 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20433, USA

' 1.202.458.7465 7 1.202.473.8249 * thart@worldbank.org p

www.worldbank.org

Contacts and Links

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Professional Activities Keithly Jones (chair)	202-694-5172	kjones@ers.usda.gov
Treasurer William Edmondson	202-694-5296	wedmonds@ers.usda.gov
Secretary Stephan Tubene	410-222-6759	stubene@umd.edu
Members-at large: Daniel Rainey	479-575-55884	rainey@uark.edu
Eta Takele	909-683-6491x 243	takele@ucr.ac1.ucr.edu
Mary Mafuyai-Ekanem	336-334-7956	mafuyai@ncat.edu

About Our Organization...

COSBAE 's mission is to encourage and promote the interests of black agricultural economics professionals within the AAEA structure and the broader agricultural community. Recognizing the importance of shared knowledge among all ag colleagues, COSBAE membership is open to all interested parties. Membership is \$10 per year. To join, please contact the AAEA office at www.aaea.org.

We're updating the Webpage!
Stay tuned...
www.aaea.org

WEBPAGE COORDINATOR NEEDED!

Got web skills? Please help maintain and update our webpage. Contact: Doris dnewton@ers.usda.gov