

Merit Curriculum Vitae 2013 - 2014

David Freshwater

Professor (July, 1997), joint appointment in The Martin School of Public Administration and Public Policy, Current DOE – 76.5% research, 23.5% teaching.

Adjunct Professor, Department of Geography, Memorial University of Newfoundland. (2009-2015 appointment period)

RESEARCH

Hatch Committee Participation

NC 1177 Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets In Transition

External

Administered through Memorial University – (2013-2015) \$183,795 **Analysing Industry-to-Occupation and Industry-to-Industry Dependencies and Linkages**. PIs - Rob Greenwood, Alvin Simms and David Freshwater, Funded by Atlantic Canada Opportunity Agency – agency asked us to develop this project.

Participation in various OECD projects in terms of research design, country assessments and report writing.

Advisor or Co-Advisor for Graduate Students Who Completed Degrees 2013-2014

Simon Jette-Nantel PhD. 2013

Sarah Williamson co-advisor M.S. 2013

Current Graduate Student Advising

Na Zuo, Agricultural Economics PHD Co-advisor
Michele Vollaro, Agricultural Economics PhD advisor
James Woodward, Martin School PhD Co-advisor
Christopher Arends, Agricultural Economics MS

Other Graduate Student Committees - 1 PhD. Committees (AEC and Martin School) , 1 MS. Committees at University of Kentucky; 1 MS Committees at Memorial University

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Courses

Spring 2013 - AEC 640 Advanced Agricultural Policy - 7 enrolled (7 evaluations - course mean 3.3, instructor mean 3.7)

- AEC 300 Economics of Not-for-Profit Firms - 23 enrolled (14 evaluations – course mean 3.0, instructor mean 2.9)

Fall 2013 – AEC/PA 653 Local Economic Development - 10 enrolled (10 evaluations - course mean 3.3, instructor mean 3.0)

- AEC 780 - Directed Readings on Preference Formation and Obesity - James Woodward, PhD student Martin School

- AEC 780 - Directed Readings on Political Economy of US Farm Bills - Jordan Leising, PhD student Political Science

Spring 2014 - AEC 640 Advanced Agricultural Policy – 9 enrolled (7 evaluations - course mean 3.86, instructor mean 4.0)

- ST 600 Market Failure, Famines and Crises -12 enrolled (no evaluation)

Fall 2014 – AEC 653 Local Economic Development -12 enrolled

Undergraduate Advising

About 12 undergraduate students throughout the biennium

PUBLICATIONS

Publications In Journals (2013-2014). 2 publications

Freshwater, D. and R. Trapasso 2014 The Disconnect Between Principles and Practice: Rural Policy Reviews of OECD Countries. *Growth and Change*. currently in Early Views but should be out in 2014 - available:

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-2257/earlyview](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468-2257/earlyview)

Simms, Alvin, D. Freshwater and J. Ward. 2014 The Rural Economic Capacity Index (RECI): A Benchmarking Tool to Support Community Based Economic Development. *Economic Development Quarterly* 28:4 pp. 351-363.

Books, Research Monographs and Chapters in Books (2011 - 2012) 4 publications

Garcilazo, Enrique, David Freshwater and Carlos Icaza-Lara. 2014. *OECD Rural Policy Reviews: Chile*, OECD Publishing: Paris.

Bryce, Betty-Ann, David Freshwater and Lucero Perez. 2014 *OECD Rural Policy Reviews: Innovation and Modernizing the Rural Economy*. OECD Publishing: Paris

Bryce, Betty-Ann and Paolo Veneri. 2013 *OECD Rural Policy Reviews: Rural-Urban Partnerships*. OECD Publishing: Paris. (author contributions to chapters 1, 2, 4 and 6 and all of Chapter 17.)

Freshwater, David, Alvin Simms and Jamie Ward. 2014. *Local Labour Markets as a New Way of Organizing Policies for Stronger Regional Economic Development In Atlantic Canada*. Harris Centre Report: Memorial University, NL January 2014.

available:

http://www.mun.ca/harriscentre/reports/fer/Functional_Regions_January2014_EN.pdf

PRESENTED PAPERS (2013 - 2014)

Papers Presented to Professional Audiences (2013-2014) 19 presentations

Freshwater, David. User Entrepreneurship: Defining and Identifying an Explicit Type of Innovation, organized session on Rural Innovation at the North American Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Bethesda MD Nov 12-15, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Closing Plenary Address, NLForum2014: Harris Centre 10th Anniversary Conference on Development Issues in Newfoundland and Labrador, St John's NL Nov. 4-5, 2014.

Freshwater, David and Alvin Simms. Measuring Productivity and Explaining Its Drivers in Atlantic Canada, Geography Department Seminar, Memorial University Sep. 19, 2014.

Freshwater, David, Alvin Simms and Jamie Ward. Atlantic Functional Economic Regions: An Evidence Based Study. Presented to ACOA Economic Development Officers, Halifax NS June 5, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Is This Time Different? The Potential for Another Farm Crisis. Selected paper Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver BC May 31, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Influencing Land Use in Rural Areas: Regulation and Incentives, presented at the OECD and Prague Institute of Planning Joint Conference on the Governance of Land Use, Prague, Czech Republic , May 15-16, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Constructing a Regional Hierarchy to Facilitate Policy Delivery in Atlantic Canada. Presentation to the OECD Rural Working Party, Paris April 7, 2014.

Freshwater, David, International Experiences in Rural Development: Opportunities and Challenges in Measuring Success. Ontario Rural Summit plenary address, Coburg Ontario March 3, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Another Approach to Thinking About Local Economic Development. Presentation at ACOA–Nova Scotia Regional Office, Halifax NS Feb. 24, 2014.

Freshwater, David, Alvin Simms and Jamie Ward. Examining Economic Development In Atlantic Canada Using Local Labour Markets, Invited seminar USDA Economic Research Service, Feb. 19, 2014.

Freshwater, David. Farmland Bubbles: Why It Might Be Different This Time, But Probably Not. Presented at the Policy Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa On. Jan. 31, 2014.

Freshwater, David and Alvin Simms, Factors Affecting Productivity in Local Labour Markets In Atlantic Canada. North American Regional Science Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta Nov. 14-16, 2013.

Freshwater, David, Agricultural Policy Reform in 2013: Different Directions in the European Union, the United States and Canada. presented at DEIAgra, University of Bologna, Italy Oct 22, 2013

Freshwater, David, The Regional Hierarchy and Differences in Rural-Urban Relations. OECD Rural Conference, Bologna Italy Oct. 23-26 2013.

Garcilazo, Enrique, David Freshwater and David McGranahan. Defining Rural Areas. Presentation at an Expert Workshop on Developing a New Definition of Rural for Chile, Santiago Chile, Oct. 3, 2013.

Freshwater, David, Trends and Innovations in Economic Development. Economic Development Association of Canada Annual Meeting, St. John's NL September 22-24, 2013.

Freshwater, David, Agricultural Policy Reform in Canada, the EU and USA – discussant remarks. Canadian Agricultural Economics Society annual meeting Washington D.C. Aug. 4-7, 2013.

Freshwater, David. Vulnerability and Resilience: Two Dimensions of Rurality. Invited plenary address European Society of Rural Sociologists, Florence, Italy July 29 – August 2, 2013.

Simms, Alvin, Jamie Ward and David Freshwater. “The development of a methodology to delineate and classify functional economic regions for regional planning and development: A case study of the Atlantic Provinces in Canada”. Southern Regional Science Association Annual Meeting Washington, D.C. April 4-6, 2013.

Invited Papers Presented to General Audiences (2011 – 2012) 5 presentations

Freshwater, David. various dates in 2014. Webinar Presentations to a number of audiences on how functional economic regions can be used to develop public policy for local economic development

SERVICE and RECOGNITION

Manuscript Reviews for various professional journals
Member of the Farm Credit System coordinating committee for academic research

Research Narrative

My core research skill is applied policy analysis. This has led me throughout my professional career to be engaged with policy makers, either directly by working with government agencies or by working with organizations that in turn deal with government agencies. For the last two decade I have been working with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development¹ (OECD) in Paris. Most of this work has been with the Rural Policy unit, and in 2009 I served as Head of this unit while on sabbatical. However, I also have worked with the Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) on farm risk management strategies, and on linkages between agricultural policy and rural development.

In the last two years I have been reconsidering my role with the OECD and have concluded that I am no longer creating much new intellectual capital from this relationship. As I reduce this research thrust I am returning to my earlier interest in the structure of agriculture and the role that finance and policy play in shaping the size distribution of farms. I am now focusing on two themes. The first is the role of public policy in an environment where very large farms (about 5% of all farms) now produce more than 75% of all agricultural output. These farms arguably no longer need or deserve public support, but continue to be the main beneficiaries of farm programs, including insurance products. The second theme is the role of risk in agriculture, particularly the potential for a reoccurrence of a farm financial crisis, similar to, but distinct from, the financial crisis of the 1980s. Farmland values in the major crop production states have now reached levels significantly higher in real dollar terms than in those seen in the late 1970s. As crop prices weaken and the likelihood of a, perhaps small but still meaningful, increase in interest rates grows, the future of land values has to be questioned.

For the last three years I have worked with the leadership of the Farm Credit System in managing a research fund of about \$100,000 each year that solicits research proposals from academics working in the agricultural finance area. The committee identifies a few themes each year and I provide academic assessment of both the proposals and the resulting papers. This is a similar task to work I carried out under TVA Rural Studies in the 1990s and it provides a useful mechanism to link academic ideas to policy questions. A secondary role I play in the group is explaining the connection between some of the more technically rigorous papers and the interests of the System.

A consequence of trying to connect academic ideas and public policy is that I spend a lot of time away from the University working with government organizations and other public policy interests. In essence this is almost an extension type activity, but with a

¹ The OECD conducts economic policy analysis and provides a forum for policy discussion for 30 of the most developed countries in the world. It provides unbiased policy analysis that is used by member countries to improve their domestic policies and in international trade discussions. The OECD has played a lead role in agricultural policy coordination in terms of providing evidence for reducing trade barriers and levels of production distorting support for farmers.

different clientele. Just as in an extension program, my current research helps inform public policy and current issues in public policy help direct my future research. For example, while the last financial crisis was driven by low prices exposing weak balance sheets on farms this is unlikely to drive the next crisis. Indeed, many commentators both academic and in government conclude that there will not be another crisis because farm balance sheets are strong. But crises rarely repeat themselves exactly, which was a clear lesson we developed in the ST 600 seminar on financial crises and famines. The important questions in my mind are: what might precipitate another crisis, and how should governments respond?

From a university perspective I am able to make direct connections from these activities to my teaching, which has a strong policy focus. Because students know that I have direct experience in the formation of agricultural and regional policy I am a more credible instructor. And, I believe that my work also enhances the international visibility of UK. All my presentations have the UK logo and I am identified as a faculty member when I speak. This biennium of my 19 professional presentations 10 were at international policy meetings. The other 9 were at academic conferences because I believe it is crucial to expose my ideas to peer assessment.

I would characterize my work in Newfoundland with Dr. Simms as being more typical of academic research. We are currently working on the third phase of what is now a five year long project that uses functional economic regions based on local labor markets as units for regional policy. While the bulk of the work is largely practical in nature we have developed one journal article that has been published and we have several more in progress. We are now developing regional supply chain models using anew approach that decomposes Provincial input-output models by introducing a number of supplemental public and proprietary data sets. We are also developing new insights on sources of productivity and innovation in rural areas that is being turned into more academic papers. The federal funding agency for this work, ACOA, not only continues to fund our research but has started to modify its development support to incorporate the ideas from the first two phases of the project.