

Agricultural Economics

at the

University of Kentucky

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From Marketing to Sustainable Ag

Dr. Lee Meyer has changed his focus in Extension from Livestock Marketing to Sustainable Agriculture. As part of this change, he will serve as the Sustainable Agriculture coordinator, representing UK to the Southern SRE program. He will teach AEC309 (International Agriculture, World Food Needs and U.S. Trade in Agriculture Products and AEC311 (Livestock Marketing.)



Carol Eads Retires!

After eight years working with the UK Tax Education Program, Carol Eads is retiring!

During her time with the program, she has worked hard to increase the enrollment as each year she continually found new ways to advertise it. Her organization skills, her creativity, and her wonderful personality will all be missed as she begins the next phase of life and adventures..

On January 31, the department held a reception in her honor to show our appreciation.



Congratulations to Kelly Davidson!



Kelly Davidson is a senior in Agricultural Economics and a University Scholar beginning work on her master's degree in Agricultural Economics. She is also a member of the 2007-08 UK Agriculture Ambassadors, a group of outstanding students in the College of Agriculture. UK's Agriculture Ambassadors recently earned the 2008 Excellence in Agriculture Literacy and Communication Award at the National Agriculture Ambassador Conference held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C.

Kelly is also president of the Agribusiness Club for the 2007-2008 year. We are very proud of her and her accomplishments!

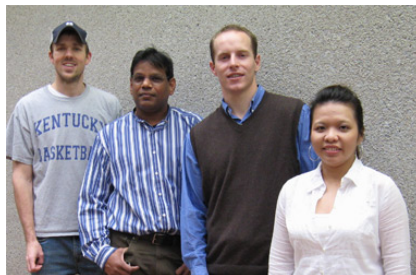
Department Calendar

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| February 2-5, 2008 | SAEA |
| February 6, 2008 | Faculty Meeting @ 11:00 Rm. 341 CEB |
| February 12, 2008 | Lincoln's B-Day |
| February 14, 2008 | Valentine's Day |
| March 3, 2008 | Faculty Meeting @ 11:00 Rm. 341 CEB |
| April 2, 2008 | Faculty Meeting |



GSO News

Congratulations to the 2007-2008 Graduate Student Organization Officers. They are: (from left to right) Simona Balazs (Treasurer), John Conley (Vice-President), Jonathan Shepard (President) and John Woolley (Secretary).



Thank You to the outgoing 2006-2007 GSO Officers: David Marshall (Treasurer), Vijay Subramamiam (Vice-President), Fabien Tondel (President) and Waripas Jiumpanyarach.

Sam and Erin Hancock Named Dupont Young Leaders

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:
SAMUEL JESSE HANCOCK,
A UK AGRICULTURAL
ECON. BS IN 97 & MS AGRI-
CULTURAL ECON. IN 2000.**

(Princeton, KY) - Sam and Erin Hancock of Fulton have been named the 2008 American Soybean Association (ASA)/Dupont Young Leader candidates for Kentucky.

The DuPont Young Leader Award is a very prestigious award. The interview process was extremely involved and detailed. Sam Hancock was judged on personal qualities, support of soybean and agriculture industries, leadership qualities in community, production and marketing plans of soybeans, and a written application.

The DuPont Award Allows young leaders from around the nation to gather together for a challenging leadership experience. This experience offers the opportunity for participants to enhance their leadership skills, as well as meet and learn from other young leaders from around the country.

"Through the upcoming training programs incorporated with the DuPont Young Leader program, I expect to expand my leadership skills," stated Hancock. "It is also my goal to continue my involvement with the Kentucky Soybean Association and the American Soybean Association."

Sam is an eight generation farmer. Hancock Farms consists of soybeans, corn, wheat and a hog operation. The Hancock's have been farming for over six years in Fulton County since his graduation from the University of Kentucky. He also serves on the Fulton County Advisory Board and is involved in the First Baptist Church, Lion's Club and Kiwanis International.

Last year the Hancock's were the recipients of ASA's Conservation Legacy Award for the Northeast Region.

KSA also recognizes the DuPont Young Leader by placing them on the board as an Ex-Officio Director. The ASA/DuPont Young Leader program is sponsored by Pioneer Hi-Bred Intl., a subsidiary of DuPont.

Publications & Presentations

Jerry R. S., J. Hartell and A. G. Murphy (2007) "Using Index-Based Risk Transfer Products to Facilitate Micro Lending in Peru and Vietnam" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Proceedings, 89(5): 1255-1261.

Mike Reed Honored

Congratulations Mike Reed for being awarded Doctor Honoris Causa (Honorary Ph.D.) Bucharest University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine. (Romania).2007.



Agricultural Economic Dean's List

Twenty undergraduates from Agricultural Economics made the Dean's List for the Fall 2007 Semester. They are: Frances Elaine Beirne, Sophomore, Neil Edward Fannin, Senior, Sean McLaughlin Feld, Junior, Jenna Woods Gover, Junior, Nathaniel Young Haggard, Senior, Carolien Elizabeth Hall, Senior, Ethan Thomas Jones, Junior, Kayla Marie Kindlesparker, Senior, David Klaine Koester, II, Senior, Ryan Joseph Lakarosky, Senior, Larua Elizabeth Leavell, Sophomore, Tannis Ann Marley, Sophomore, Douglas William Murphey, Senior, Marie Elise Pelton, Senior, Caroline Elizabeth Peterson, Freshmon, William Price Stahl, Senior, William Patrick Sullivan, II, Senior, Elydia Anne Thomas, Junior, Benjamin D. Wagener, Senior, Sarah Elizabeth Wixson, Senior.



Welcome - Future Alumni

Congratulations to Tao Wu, an M.S. student in our department and welcome to baby Jessica. Tao's wife gave birth to baby girl on January 7. Baby Jessica weighed 6lbs., 3.8 oz and was 20 inches in length. Tao Wu also passed both his preliminary exams the same day baby Jessica was born.



Welcome - New Graduate Students



Welcome to new graduate students Sam Kaninda (right), Ph.D. candidate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa, and Ron Childress (far right), M.S. candidate from Louisville KY.



Nathan Routt and KCARD

Recent Agricultural Economic Graduate Student Nathan Routt and The Kentucky Center for Agriculture & Rural Development or KCARD is a 501 c3 non-profit organization with a mission to foster agricultural and rural business development in the state. KCARD fulfills this mission by offering business services in the following categories: technical assistance, educational opportunities, and business support services. Within these broad categories KCARD staff members work with a variety of mutually owned businesses. KCARD performs services that cover the entire business development cycle ranging from feasibility studies and business plan development to board of director training and business efficiency analysis and operations audits. In addition to working with startup business ventures, much of KCARD's work centers on businesses that want to change, replace, expand or tweak their existing operations in some way. KCARD acts as a consultant by performing analysis and presenting possible solutions in order to help clients make informed decisions.

Nathan Routt, a business development specialist with KCARD, has been active in developing business plans and creating operating budgets for startup companies since he began work at KCARD in 2006. Nathan also creates customized spreadsheets for clients to be used as decision tools, inventory tracking tools, asset valuation tools and other applications as needed. Also, on occasion he presents seminars on the steps to starting a new business and advocates KCARD as a good resource for entrepreneurs. In addition, he assists other KCARD staff members Brent Lackey, Rich Laing, and KCARD executive director Larry Snell on larger projects that require a team effort such as business management and operations audits. Nathan provides help setting up Quickbooks accounting software for clients and answers questions for clients that are already using Quickbooks. Quickbooks accounting software has grown in use among Kentucky's small businesses and Larry Snell noted recently that there is considerable client demand for Quickbooks assistance.

KCARD expects to see growth in the demand for its services in 2008 due to more inquiries from business owners, referrals by current clients, and a new website that became active in the fall of 2007.

University of Kentucky's 2009 Solar Decathlon

The Solar Decathlon, a biennial event held by the DOE in Washington, D.C. involves student teams in a competition to design, build and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered house. During the event, the public observes the powerful combination of solar energy, energy efficiency and the best in home design. The event also provides an opportunity to educate students, faculty and staff at the participating universities on the benefits of solar power.

Katy Jones – ISC Junior, School of Journalism and Telecommunications reports that the University of Kentucky is one of the 20 plus universities from around the world selected by US Department of Energy to compete in the 2009 Solar Decathlon.

More than 30 faculty members from six colleges and 16 departments and centers on UK's campus collaborated in developing UK's proposal to participate in the 2009 Solar Decathlon. AEC 422 students will be working on this project with companies focusing on this industry to develop a feasibility study illustrating the cost/benefit comparison analysis of constructing solar efficient housing objects and their feasibility.

In the proposal submitted December 2007, the UK project was named the SMART BLUES house – the Simple, Modular, Affordable, Renewable, Transportable, Building, combining Living, Understanding, Energy-efficiency and Sustainability. The Blues Team, made up of students and faculty from the collaborating colleges and centers, will design and construct the UK entry for the competition.

According to the UK 2009 Solar Decathlon project team co-leader, Donald Colliver, associate professor in the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering, this project will promote interdisciplinary learning and inter-professional education at the university and enhance UK's stature among its peers both nationally and globally. It will also provide an opportunity for international exposure and promotion of Kentucky-based industry sponsors, Colliver said.

In the coming weeks, the UK Solar Decathlon team will launch an "Open Ideas Competition" to solicit innovative design concepts from the Kentucky community. Kentuckians should suggest resources unique to the Commonwealth that can best help Kentuckians utilize solar power for green and sustainable solutions.

For more information, please contact

Donald Colliver, Ph.D., P.E.
128 C. E. Barnhart Building
University of Kentucky
Lexington, KY 40546-0276 USA
1.859.257.3000 (Tel)
1.859.257.5671 (Fax)
colliver@bae.uky.edu



Job Listings

| Location | Position | Closing Date/ Available | Contact Info |
|--|--|----------------------------|---|
| Texas Cattle Feeders Association | Market Department Director | March 2008 | Ross Wilson @ (806) 358-3681 ext. 101 |
| University of California, Santa Cruz, Department of Economics | Assistant/Associate Professor, International Economics | July 1, 2008 | http://www2.ucsc.edu/ahr/academic_employment/bulletin_flyers_originaldocs_pdfs/07-08/572-08.pdf |
| University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Institute for Economic Advancement. | Senior Research Professor of Economics/State Economic Forecaster | July 1, 2008 | http://www.aiea.ualr.edu/ieastaff/pdf/State-Forecaster.pdf |
| | Demographic Researcher/Census State Data Center Mgr. | February 11, 2008 | http://www.aiea.ualr.edu/ieastaff/pdf/Demographic-Researcher.pdf |
| | Economic Development Research Specialist | February 11, 2008 | http://www.iea.uair.edu/ieastaff/pdf/RegionalEconomic.pdf |
| | Regional Economic Researcher | February 11, 2008 | http://www.aiea.ualr.edu/ieastaff/pdf/RegionalEconomist.pdf |
| University of Connecticut College of Agriculture and National Resources | Professor/Head, Dept. of Agri. & National Resources | March 14, 2008 | email-Cameron.Faustman@uconn.edu or (860) 486-2919 or fax (860) 486-4643 |
| Bismarck State College Agriculture/Technology and National Resources | Assist. Prof. of Agriculture, Tech & Nat. Resources | open | http://www.bismarckstate.edu/hr/jobs.asp . |
| California Polytechnic State University, | Assistant or Associate Professor | 12/14/2007 | www.calpolyjobs.org/applicants/Central? |
| | Full-Time Lecturer | 12/14/2007 | www.calpolyjobs.org/applicants/Central?quickFind=160709 |
| | Full-Time Lecturer | 12/14/2007 | www.calpolyjobs.org/applicants/Central?quickFind=160707 |

| Location | Position | Closing Date/ Available | Contact Info |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|
| The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology | The Pennsylvania State University, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology | August 1, 2008 | http://news.aers.psu.edu/PSUAERSResourceEconomicsPosition.doc |
| North Dakota State University | Assistant or Associate Prof. in Agribusiness & Applied Economics | open | Sandy.osborne@ndsu.edu Questions to; Tim Petry or David Saxowsky, Search Committee Co-Chairs (701-231-7469 or 701-231-7470) |
| | Assist./Assoc. Prof. in Agribusiness & applied Econ. Extension Crop Econ./Mkt. Specialist | open | Sandy.osborne@ndsu.edu Questions to; Tim Petry or David Saxowsky, Search Committee Co-Chairs (701-231-7469 or 701-231-7470) |
| Oklahoma State University College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources | Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics - Agricultural Policy | February 15, 2008 | http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/jobs/AgPolicy_Position5new.pdf |
| | Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor of Agricultural Economics - Community Economic Development | March 21, 2008 | http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/jobs/Position%20Announcement%20ED%20re-ad.pdf |
| | Assistant/Associate Professor, Production Economics | February 15, 2008 | http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/jobs/Prod_Econ_Position_Announcement.pdf |
| Michigan State University Departments of Economics (50%) and Agricultural Economics (50%) | Assistant/Associate Professor, Economics of Energy | August 16, 2008 | http://www.aec.msu.edu/openpositions/bioenergyprof.pdf |

University of Kentucky
Department of Agricultural Economics
400 Charles E. Barnhart Bldg.
Lexington, KY 40546-0276

Phone: 859-257-5762
Fax: 859-323-1913
URL: <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AgEcon/>

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