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*of*  
**STUDENT  
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# AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS JOURNAL OF STUDENT PAPERS

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

I am pleased to present the 1993 *American Agricultural Economics Association Journal of Student Papers*. This journal contains a report of student section activities, the top five papers submitted and the abstracts of other competitors in the student paper competition in Orlando, Florida.

The papers are a consolidation of the efforts and hard work in research and presentation by students on a wide variety of interesting topics. They are worthy of attention not only for the excellence of content, but also for the diligence of each students' efforts.

The purposes of the SS-AAEA include giving individuals and clubs recognition and a chance to compete, allowing students from all over North America to meet and interact, and providing a communication link between clubs so they can improve, grow and promote awareness of the professional Agricultural Economics Association. The journal was created to inform the AAEA and the SS-AAEA of these activities.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to those who made this journal possible with their invaluable suggestions and hours of help. This journal is the result of several individuals' cooperative efforts, and I appreciate the help of each of them.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Mongeau  
Kansas State University

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Welcome to the 1993 *AAEA Journal of Student Papers*. Papers presented in this journal represent a wide cross-section of students in agricultural economics. The Student Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association (SS-AAEA) provides undergraduate students an arena to compete, gain recognition, and the opportunity for students throughout North America to meet and interact with professional agricultural economists and fellow students.

The main purpose of having a student paper competition is to allow students the opportunity to communicate interest they have and present those interests according to the economic principles and experiences they have learned in the classroom. Preparation and completion of a paper requires a system managing the busy life of an undergraduate student - a full load of classes, student clubs and activities, work, and yes...maybe even a social life. All students who participated in the 1992 paper competition are to be congratulated for their hard work and achievements.

On behalf of the SS-AAEA, I would like to encourage students and advisors to get involved and become a part of our growing organization. I invite you to participate in the Student Paper competition, the Academic Bowl, the Outstanding Chapter Recognition, and in the SS-AAEA officer elections at the 1994 annual Summer Meetings August 7-10 in San Diego, California. You can get the details on how to become involved in the SS-AAEA handbook, or by contacting anyone on this year's executive team. I am looking forward to meeting you and seeing you become an active member of the SS-AAEA.

Sincerely,

Ken Eriksen, President  
Washington State University

## THE 1993 SS-AAEA REPORT

### 1993 Annual Meeting: Orlando, Florida

Beautiful, sunny Orlando, Florida was the site of the 1993 annual meetings of the SS-AAEA on August 1-4. Students from all over the United States and Canada gathered in Orlando to attend the meetings. The students were kept busy with the Academic Bowl competition, the paper presentation, graduate fair, employment symposium, and the business meeting. Despite all of the activities the students still found time for several social events.

### Academic Bowl

The Academic Bowl competition once again served as the highlight of the meetings. Sixteen teams representing fourteen schools competed in the competition, which tests the students' knowledge in eight different areas of agricultural economics. The championship game pitted the University of Arkansas against Kansas State University. It was a very competitive match, but the University of Arkansas came away with the win. The winning team received \$100 and a plaque for their efforts; the runners-up received \$50 and a plaque. Purdue University and the University of Guelph finished third and fourth, respectively.

### Paper Competition

The paper competition proved that students are capable of writing and presenting excellent research papers. The winner of this year's competition was Christine Wilson Cole from Kansas State University. The second place paper was written by John Cranfield of the University of Guelph. Heidi Samuel from Texas A&M

University had the third place paper. R.A. Mussell of the University of Guelph and Michael Meadows of the University of Georgia finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

### Outstanding Chapter

This year's Outstanding Chapter Award goes to Texas A&M University. The award is based on the club's promotion of agriculture economics, recruitment of new members, fundraising activities, and on how well the club met its goals and objectives for the year. Texas A&M will receive \$100 for their club's hard work.

### 1993 Business Meeting

The Business Meeting for the 1993 SS-AAEA meetings was called to order by President Scott Lee. Brian Willott brought up the idea of using the Academic Bowl as a student mixer on the Sunday night of the summer meetings. Fun categories would be used, and students would not be allowed to be on the same team as their schoolmates. Also, ideas were brought up for new contests for the future. These included a Case Study and a Futures Trading game. The outgoing officers as well as advisors were recognized. Each outgoing officer read an account of what their jobs entailed. The election followed with positions being filled in the following order:

- President: Ken Eriksen, Washington State University
- Vice President, Central: Jamey Cline, University of Missouri
- Vice President, Southern: Toby Rogers, Texas Tech. University

- Secretary/Treasurer: Lisa Fink, University of Missouri
- Journal Editor: Jennifer Mongeau, Kansas State University
- Newsletter Editor: Michelle Beshear, Oklahoma State University
- Freshman Advisor: Jane Luzar, Louisiana State University
- Junior Advisor: Andrew Barkley, Kansas State University
- Senior Advisor: Steve Turner, University of Georgia

James Houk, Retiring President of the AAEA also visited the meeting for a few minutes. The meeting was adjourned and everyone was looking forward to the meetings in San Diego, California in 1994!

#### 1993 Executive Board Meeting: Toronto

On November 20, 1993, the SS-AAEA Officer Team met to discuss the progress of current SS-AAEA activities, plan the Summer Meeting agenda, and develop future goals of the SS-AAEA. This officer meeting was called to order by President, Ken Eriksen at 9:10 a.m., and all officers were present. Also in attendance were advisors Dr. Andrew Barkley and Dr. E. Jane Luzar. Senior Advisor, Dr. Steve Turner was unable to attend.

Ken welcomed and thanked all the officers for their attendance. He then formally introduced the two new officers appointed to fill the vacancies on the officer team: Kristie Jacobs, Northeastern Vice-President and Tonya McPheeters, Western Region Vice-President. Lisa Fink, Secretary/Treasurer, read the minutes from the 1993 Summer Meeting in Orlando, Florida, which were approved as read. The meeting then proceeded on to Officer Reports.

Toby Rogers, Southern Region Vice-President, handed out an impressive summary of his progress since August.

Over 60 recruitment letters have been sent out throughout his region and Mississippi State University is a newly chartered chapter of the SS-AAEA. Toby reported that there is an interest in holding regional meetings among chartered chapters and on February 5-9, 1994, the Southern Association of Agricultural Sciences (SAAS) is holding a meeting in Nashville, which would be a good opportunity to conduct such an event.

Jamey Cline, Central Region Vice-President, reported that he is ready to send out another set of letters and make personal phone calls to regional schools and chapters. He also agreed with Toby stating that there is an interest in holding regional meetings.

Kristie Jacobs stated that as the newly appointed Northeastern Vice-President, she has not yet received a handbook with a list of the chartered chapters of the NE Region. Since she is starting from "ground-zero," she has not yet made contacts with the schools. She plans to make phone calls and send out letters next week, with a follow-up letter in January. Ken reminded the officers to mail copies of all correspondence to their fellow officers so everyone is kept up-to-date and informed of the other officer's progress.

Tonya McPheeters, Western Region Vice-President, reported that letters were mailed to regional schools, but response is slow. She did receive a response from the University of Arizona. She stated that letters were sent to presidents of clubs and heads of the departments, and she is going to make follow-up calls.

Jennifer Mongeau, Journal Editor, handed out copies of her progress on the 1993 Journal of Student Papers. She stated that she got off to a slow start because she didn't receive the computer disk containing copies of the papers until recently. She suggested that the disk is brought to the summer meeting in San Diego for the next Journal Editor. In addition, she asked for officer reports from President, Secretary, and

the Newsletter Editor to be included in the Journal. Upon looking over past journals, Ken suggested that Jennifer use a computer font to make the journal look more attractive and not like plain type. All officers agreed.

Michelle Beshear, Newsletter Editor, announced that she will be sending out newsletters on January 15, 1994, and April 15, 1994. She also requested that all the officers submit a biography to include in the upcoming issue. There was some confusion as to which mailing list Michelle and the fellow officers are using, so it was decided that mailing lists will be sent to Michelle to be updated for all the officers to use. Kristie volunteered to help with this project. In addition, the officers discussed formulating a brochure describing the SS-AAEA Organization. Lisa and Jamey volunteered to work on setting one up.

Jamey reported that he talked with the advisor from McGill University and received a name of a prospective student to be the Vice-President for Canada. He is also to be receiving an additional list of interested students for this position.

Lisa stated that as of October 1, 1993, the treasury stood at \$3,416.52. There are still outstanding dues to be received by chartered chapters.

Dr. Luzar, Freshman Advisor, talked with Senior Advisor, Dr. Turner prior to the meeting and relayed his messages and concerns on to the officers. Dr. Barkley, Junior Advisor, along with Dr. Luzar encouraged the officers to call if anyone had any questions or needed any help.

Before proceeding on to new business, the officers and advisors broke away from their agenda to meet with the AAEA Board Members. Introductions were made and Ken presented the SS-AAEA progress report to the Board. In addition, Ken made two requests: (1) the AAEA purchase the copyright to the Quiz Bowl Game so the organization can update and make changes to the program legally; and (2) the final round of academic bowl be held

prior to the Awards Ceremony on Tuesday night at the summer convention so the winners can be recognized by the group. The Board was receptive to both requests. AAEA President, Peter Barry stated that the copyright could be purchased for \$100.00. He also offered to move the Awards Ceremony back 30 minutes if we needed the time to complete the quiz bowl. The officers then excused themselves from the Board meeting to return to their agenda.

Under new business, the officers came to the consensus that it should be mandatory for chapters in attendance at the Summer Meeting have a voting delegate in attendance at the Business Meeting. This will be encouraged by designating the chapter's delegate on the bottom of the registration card. In addition, the officers agreed that if one is running for office and is the only voting delegate for their chapter, they may vote in the election. It was also decided that it should be mandatory for travel grant recipients to attend the Business Meeting. To accomplish this, the travel grant checks will be presented at the Business Meeting instead of at the time of registration.

The officers evaluated the pros and cons of the 1993 Summer Meeting in Orlando as they set the itinerary for the 1994 Summer Meeting. It was decided to have the competition orientation and student mixer combined on Sunday night in which students will be put in teams and practice the quiz bowl competition with "fun" sample questions. To encourage more attendance at the Graduate Recruitment Fair (both students and schools), it will be held in one room on Tuesday morning from 9:00-Noon. There was discussion about having a SS-AAEA traveling display to be set up at the summer meetings. Dr. Luzar stated that it would be quite feasible to have a stand and a message board for the student section. The officers liked this idea as it would be a central location to meet and maintain necessary correspondence. As a new event

at the Summer Meetings, the officer team devised an additional paper competition. There will be a symposium of selected student paper presentations which will be used to stimulate discussion between the faculty and students. The "reward" to the student is the fact that his/her paper was selected to be presented at the event. Jamey moved and Michelle seconded to hold the Selected Paper Symposium at the Summer Meeting in San Diego. The motion passed. Dr. Barkley stated that the advisors will work on the rules and outline for this event.

Michelle volunteered to order the officer name tags for the Summer Meeting. Ken said that Clarence should be taking care of the T-shirts for the meeting.

Seeing no more announcements, the meeting was adjourned.