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# WAEA

## 2014 Award Winners

### **Outstanding Published Research Award**

*Darlington Sabasi, Christopher T. Bastian, Dale Menkhaus, and Owen Phillips.* 2013. “Committed Procurement in Privately Negotiated Markets: Evidence from Laboratory Markets.” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 95(5): 1122–1135.

### **JARE Outstanding Journal Article Award**

*Chenguang Li and Richard J. Sexton.* 2013. “Grocery-Retailer Pricing Behavior with Implications for Farmer Welfare.” 38(2):141–158.

### **JARE Outstanding Journal Reviewer Award**

*Jesse Tack,* Mississippi State University

### **Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award**

*Marshall Frasier,* Colorado State University (less than 10 years’ experience)  
*Dannele Peck,* University of Wyoming (more than 10 years’ experience)

### **Outstanding Extension Program Award for Project**

*The Oklahoma Quality Beef Network Team.* Eric DeVuyst, Professor, Agricultural Economics; Damona Doye, Regents Professor and Extension Economist, Agricultural Economics; Derrell Peel, Professor, Agricultural Economics and Charles Breedlove Professorship, Agribusiness; Kellie Raper, Associate Professor, Agricultural Economics; Gant Mourer, Value Added Beef Assistant Extension Specialist, Animal Science; David Lalman, Professor, Animal Science; Chris Richards, Associate Professor, Animal Science; Megan Rolf, Assistant Professor, Animal Science; Daniel Stein, Assistant Professor, Animal Science; D.L. Step, Professor, Veterinary Medicine; Justin Talley, Associate Professor, Entomology; all from Oklahoma State University.

### **Outstanding Published Graduate Student or Master’s Thesis Award**

*Amy Hilland,* University of Idaho. “Implications of the Yuan-Dollar Exchange Rate and Commodity Trade between China, the United States, and Competitors.”  
Advisor: Stephen Devadoss.

*Honorable Mention: Jeremy Pagaran,* Arizona State University. “Innovative Insurance Products in Food Safety: Pricing Revenue Insurance in the Fresh Spinach Industry.”  
Advisor: Mark Manfredo.

### **WAEA Graduate Student Paper/Presentation Competition**

*Alex Hlavinka*, Texas A&M University. “The Adoption of Ductless Heat Pumps in the Pacific Northwest.”

Co-authors: James Mjelds, Texas A&M University; Senarath Dharmasena, Texas A&M University; and Christine Jerko-Holland, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance.

*2nd Place: Yang Xie*, University of California, Berkeley. “The Economics of Water Project Capacities, Water Inventory Management, and Conservation Technology Adoption.”

Co-author: David Zilberman, University of California, Berkeley.

*3rd Place: Allison Bauman*, Colorado State University. “Modeling Welfare Outcomes of Water Markets with Transaction Costs: An Agent-Based Modeling Approach.”

Co-authors: Christopher Goemans, Colorado State University; James Pritchett, Colorado State University; Travis Warziniack, US Forest Service; and Dawn Thilmany McFadden, Colorado State University.

### **Graduate Travel Grant Recipients**

*Yang Xie*, University of California–Berkeley

*Zoe T. Plakias*, University of California–Davis

*Allison Bauman*, Colorado State University

*Marzieh Motallebi*, Colorado State University

*Mahalingam Dhamodharan*, University of Idaho

*Rosemary Isoto*, Ohio State University

*Rebecca Davis*, University of Tennessee

*Gnel Gabrielyan*, Washington State University

*Tristan D. Skolrud*, Washington State University

*Choong Kim*, University of Wyoming

### **Outstanding Seniors**

*Adrienne Bradley*, University of California–Davis

*Jedediah Winter*, Colorado State University

*Kaycee Royer*, University of Idaho

*Brock Burnick*, Kansas State University

*Brette Gebers*, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

*Seth Boone*, Oklahoma State University

*Briana Tanaka*, Oregon State University

*Jordan Gottinger*, University of Saskatchewan

*Mason Parish*, Texas A&M University

*Cody Swainston*, Utah State University

*Tristan Hannon*, Washington State University

*Perry Baptista*, University of Wyoming

## Distinguished Scholars

### *Francis Epplin, Oklahoma State University*

Francis Epplin is Professor and Jean and Patsy Neustadt Chair in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University. He received a B.S. in agricultural education from Southern Illinois University. After a tour of duty with the U.S. Army in Vietnam, he earned an M.S. in agricultural industries from Southern Illinois University and served for two years as an instructor in the Department of Agriculture at Western Illinois University. He then began a Ph.D. program at Iowa State University where he had the privilege of working under the direction of Earl O. Heady. He has been at Oklahoma State University since 1979. He has had the good fortune to work at a Land Grant University and with a number of talented and dedicated scientists and students. Dr. Epplin's research contributions in traditional crop and livestock production and in biofuels production are recognized both within and well beyond the walls of his discipline. Nearly all of his grants are collaborative across academic departments, a strong indicator of his excellent research record and broadly recognized scholarly contributions. He has co-authored journal articles with more than twenty agronomists, and with animal scientists, engineers, entomologists, and graduate students. Francis has presented invited papers on the economics



of biofuel production at prestigious conferences sponsored by the National Science Foundation and by the Foreign Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. He is often the only economist on the program, reiterating the respect that colleagues outside of his discipline have for him. Extension colleagues value Dr. Epplin's work in biofuel feedstock production and processing and wheat pasture research. Dr. Epplin's research also enhances his graduate teaching, as evidenced by student evaluation scores never below 3.6/4.0 and his mentoring relationship with students long after they complete his class. Dr. Francis Epplin has developed an exemplary multidisciplinary research program that contributes to all three legs of the Land Grant triangle.

### *Chennat Gopalakrishnan, University of Hawaii at Manoa*



Chennat Gopalakrishnan (Gopal) spent 41 years with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa prior to his retirement in 2010. He remains an emeritus professor with the university. Gopal is best known for his research on water economics and policy, particularly for advancing our understanding of water management institutions. He is one of the leading figures in the institutional analysis of the water sector. In recognition of Gopal's scholarship, he was named a Fellow of both the International Water Resources Association (2008) and the American Water Resources Association (2003). Gopal is a prolific scholar, having produced seven books, nearly 70 refereed publications, 68 conference papers, and numerous other reports and reviews. While the bulk of his writings focused on water institutions, this is by no means his only area of contribution. Within the water resources field, he has also published many empirical studies addressing a diverse set of topics including sustainable

water resource management, water conservation, political externalities, water conflicts and their resolution, and, most recently, water and disasters. Earlier in his career, Gopal made notable contributions to the field of energy economics and marine economics. For his research, teaching, and mentoring contributions, Gopal was honored by his College in 2009 with the Excellence in Research Award, and in 2003 with the Ka Pouhana (Mentor) Award. He has also chaired and served as a member of numerous PhD and Master's committees. In his retirement, Gopal continues to be active in his field. He launched a new journal, the *Journal of Natural Resources Policy Research* (Routledge) in 2009. He is, currently, at work on two books, one on "institutional entropy" and a second one on the theory and empirics of water disaster management policies.