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SS-AAEA Journal

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**Student Section of
The American Agricultural Economics
Association**

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President's Notes

Erin Fujan

The Student Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association (SS-AAEA) was founded in 1987. It is comprised of undergraduate students from across the United States and Canada. Its primary purpose is to promote student leadership and professional development. This is achieved through the ongoing support of the professional AAEA and its members. This support extends to our participation in the AAEA Regional and National Conferences.

The purpose of the Undergraduate Paper Competition within the Student Section of the American Agricultural Economics Association is to expose participants to research studies and to fine-tune their presentation skills. The research papers included in this journal demonstrate the high quality of work put into this competition and also show the complexities of today's agriculture industry.

The participants in this competition focused on agricultural economics, agribusiness, natural resources, or environmental economics, including areas of production, finance, marketing, and policy problems. They are required to use logic, research findings, and conceptualization of problems, as well as implementation of economic concepts in their proposed solutions. In addition, undergraduates are then required to defend their research in front of a different panel of judges from those critiquing the papers.

What has resulted are the top research papers, included in this journal, that further prove the caliber of undergraduates within the field of agricultural economics that are associated with the SS-AAEA.

It has been a pleasure to be associated with the SS-AAEA and to work with the officers, advisors, and student members of the association. It has been a phenomenal learning experience for all of us connected to the programs administered through this organization.

Erin Fujan, President

Student Section - American Agricultural Economics Association

Editor's Notes

Eric Pendergrass

Hello everyone. It has been an exciting year for the SS-AAEA. The Tampa convention was a well-planned success. The University of Florida deserves special thanks for hosting a great convention. The days were filled with lively competition, while everyone enjoyed newly formed companionships at night. This year's convention in Chicago should live up to the same standards.

A special congratulation goes out to the University of Florida Team 1 for their success in the Academic Bowl competition and Tara Schofner, from the University of Arkansas, for a first place finish in the paper competition. For those of you interested in these competitions or any others SS-AAEA has to offer, a brief description is contained in this journal. For more information check the web site (www.aaea.org) or look in the SS-AAEA handbook. Another year of fierce competition is expected. I wish all the competitors the best of luck in their upcoming competitions.

Eric Pendergrass-Journal Editor

Student Section- American Agricultural Economics Association