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Editor's Report to the SAEA Executive Board, 5 February 2006

1. 2005 JAAE Editorial Performance Statistics (through Dec. 5)

Submissions received (numbers in parentheses are for 2002):

Number of new submissions:	99 (102)
Number of resubmissions:	<u>24</u> (22)
Total submissions:	123

Disposition:

Accepted:	28 (35)
Invited to revise:	60 (80)
Rejected:	28 (31)
In review:	<u>7</u>
Total:	123

Total number of reviews received:	199 (213)
Average number of days in review:	85 (67)

Acceptance rate:

Formula 1 (= accepted/(accepted + rejected + in revision): 24% (24%)

Formula 2 (= accepted/(accepted + rejected)): 50% (53%)

In 2005 we increased the number of reviewers from two to three, which explains in part the increased number of days in review. Formula 1 is used in previous issues of this journal (see, e.g., *JAAE*, vol. 35, p. 459), and by the *Journal of Agriculture and Resource Economics* (JARE editorial office, personal communication, 13 December 2005); Formula 2 is used by the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (see, e.g., *AJAE*, vol. 86, p. 1385). The *AJAE* acceptance rate for the period 1 January 2003 through 1 July 2004 is 23%.

2. Changes to the Editorial Council

Five members rotate off the Editorial Council as of the February 2006 meetings. These members and recommended replacements are as follows:

Keith Coble replacement

Michael M. Hudson (marketing, agribusiness, experimental economics)
 Associate Professor, Mississippi State University

Cesar Escalante replacement

Andrew M. McKenzie (grain marketing, futures markets, price risk management)
 Associate Professor, University of Arkansas

Neal Hooker replacement

Mark Denbaly (agribusiness, food marketing)
 Economist, USDA, ERS

Maria Loureiro replacement

Carl Johan Lagerkvist (finance, production, policy)
 Lecturer, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Jeffrey Reimer replacement

Shenggen Fan (economic development, trade, policy)
 Division Director, International Food Policy Research Institute

P. Lynn Kennedy, who was scheduled to rotate off in 2006, has agreed to serve another term.

3. The 2005 JAAE Outstanding Journal Article Award

The 2005 award covers articles in the December 2004 and April and August 2005 issues. The process involved rankings by the Editorial Council. In the first stage, five Council members were randomly assigned to each volume with instructions to select the best three articles. These responses were then collated to identify the top five picks. In the second stage, all 15 Council members were asked to rank the top five picks. Based on this process the winner is:

Chavas, Jean-Paul and Kwansoo Kim.
"An Econometric Analysis of Price Dynamics in the Presence of a Price Floor: The Case of American Cheese."
Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics. 37 (April 2005): 21–35.

4. Editorial team and Allen Press

The editorial team consisting of myself as chief editor, Dragan Miljkovic and Øystein Myrland as associate editors, and Patricia J. Keough-Wilson as technical editor seems to be working well. Thanks to Dragan and Patricia's diligence the August and December 2005 issues were published on time, and we are in galley stage for the April 2006 issue. The December 2006 issue is beginning to fill with two

articles accepted. Dragan and Patricia report good working relations with Allen Press. Thus, I see no reason not to extend the Press's contract when it comes up for renewal with the April 2006 issue. (Unless either party objects, the renewal will be automatic and will extend through the April 2008 issue.)

5. ISI Application

Unfortunately, JAAE's application to the Institute for Scientific Information was rejected. However, we were invited to re-apply in two years. One deficiency was the journal's paucity of international content. To address this concern, Øystein, who handles international submissions, is developing a brochure to promote the journal in Europe.

6. Electronic Submission

We are experimenting with Editorial Express, the electronic submission system used by the AJAE and RAE and recommended by Chris Barrett, who researched alternative systems for the AJAE. Editorial Express has a start-up cost of \$250 and an annual fee of \$1,000. But according to Barrett the savings in terms of paper, postage, and secretarial time more than compensate. We anticipate, therefore, moving to the system soon barring unforeseen problems with Allen Press.