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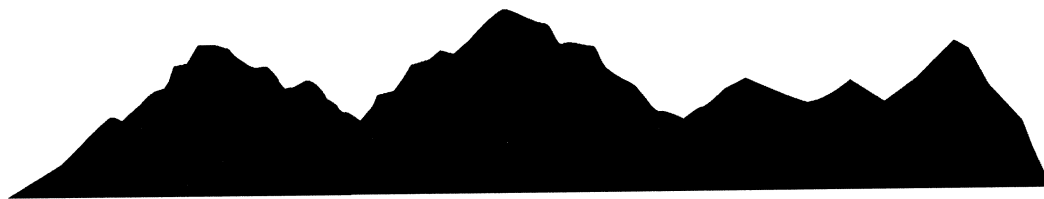
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The Journal of the Western Agricultural Economics Association

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Penelope (Penny) L. Diebel

WAEA President, 2008–2009



Penelope (Penny) L. Diebel is associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Oregon State University's off-campus program, OSU Agriculture at EOU. Penny received a B.S. (1983) in Outdoor Recreation Management and an M.S. (1986) in Agriculture and Natural Resource Economics, both from Colorado State University. In 1990, she received her Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Virginia Tech.

Dr. Diebel teaches a variety of courses, from freshman orientation to a natural resource economics capstone. She serves as Ag Club and Ag Ambassador Program advisor, undergraduate recruiter, and curriculum advisor. Penny is profiled on Oregon State University's Best Teaching Practices Faculty website and the Registry of Distinguished Teachers. She has been the recipient of numerous teaching awards from Oregon State University (2006, 2002, and 1999), the Western Agricultural Economics Association (2000), and the National Association of Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (1997).

Her current teaching research program includes distance education pedagogy and

student retention issues. She also has research projects involving the economics of grass seed field burning alternatives and Christmas tree best management practices. As a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University (1990–1994), she was active in the Economic and Environmental Implications of Cropland Subject to Expiring Conservation Reserve Contracts Project (1991–1998), was co-recipient of a *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* Best Research Article Award (1996), and Berg Fellow (1992).

Penny has served the WAEA for many years—as Vice-President (2005–2006), Awards Chair (2004–2005), director (2003–2005), and in many other positions. She has also served the American Agricultural Economics Association, including Policy Award Committee Chair (2004–2005) and Student Section-AAEA Advisor (1995–1998).

As WAEA President, Penny hopes to encourage increased participation of the WAEA Executive Committee and Council representatives throughout the year and increase communication with members. As a long-time member, Penny recognizes the attraction of the WAEA as a small, professional organization and hopes to foster its collegial but professional atmosphere through continued support of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, the *Western Economics Forum*, and by encouraging the use of the WAEA annual meetings as a discussion forum for developing research ideas and partnerships.

Dr. Diebel was born in central Kansas and raised in Colorado. She is married to Ken Diebel. They have two children who keep them busy with school activities, sports, and music lessons. Penny is also a 4-H Dog Club Leader and stays active with the family collection of horses, dogs, and other assorted animals.