Keeping Track
March 2010

Calendar of Events:

March 5  Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Awards
          Seminar:  Dr. Cal Turvey, 3:30-5 Krannert Auditorium "Measuring
          Individual Farm Household Credit Demand Elasticities: Results from
          Shaanxi and Gansu"
March 15-20  Spring break
March 22  Last day a course may be cancelled
          Last day to add a class or change it to/from pass/fail
April 9  Last day for grad students to schedule their final
April 13  Deadline for pending incomplete grades to become failing grades
April 16  Annual James C. Snyder Memorial Lecture
April 23  Last day for graduate students to have a final defense
April 30  Last day for graduate students to deposit thesis/dissertation
May 1  Classes end
May 3-8  Final Exams
May 14  Commencement 8 pm

Going Green Tip: Plug your devices into power strips, and turn off the strips when you’re not using them. BECAUSE: Some plugged-in appliances and strips use electricity when they’re turned off. But one 6-outlet strip, when shut down, uses 87 percent less energy than devices left in six individual outlets.

March trivia: European mapmakers were the originators of jigsaw puzzles in the 1760s, pasting maps onto wood and cutting them into small pieces.

Congratulations and Names in the News

Student-led companies that develop consumer products from the byproducts of ethanol production and a tissue-healing technology that also reduces scarring took top honors at Purdue University's 23rd annual $100,000 Burton D. Morgan Business Plan Competition.

TerraSolutions LLC, led by brothers Jacob and Matthew Smoker of LaPorte, Ind., won the $20,000 top prize in the Black Division for undergraduate students. The company is developing a biodegradable, cork-like material for flooring, insulation and other uses from the waste and byproducts of ethanol production. Jacob Smoker is a senior in Agricultural Economics.
The winners were announced Tuesday night (Feb. 23) at an awards dinner following a full day of business-plan presentations from the 10 finalists at Discovery Park's Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship.

"This $100,000 annual event showcased some of Purdue's most creative and innovative student-led business concepts, and we saw 10 examples today of how bright the future looks through this next generation of entrepreneurs," said Richard Cosier, co-director of the Burton D. Morgan Center and dean of Purdue's Krannert School of Management. "The judges earned their keep again this year in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions in determining which ideas show the quickest and most viable paths to the marketplace."

2010 Distinguished Agriculture Alumni Awards are March 5th. The Agricultural Economics Department will host an Open Forum Discussion honoring Greg Deason and David Anderson, Agricultural Economics Alumni. The forum is scheduled for 10:30 to 11:45 on March 5th in Krannert 661.

Congratulations to Penny Pava for being honored for 15 years to service to Purdue University.

Two undergraduates, Carissa McCay and Emily Hirsch received ISFMA scholarships at the ISFMA annual meeting held on February 3, 2010. The annual meeting began with a brief update on Departmental activities by Dr. Ken Foster, Department Head, new faculty members were introduced, Dr. Otto Doering gave a presentation and Dr. Craig Dobbins (Purdue Liaison) reported on the annual land values survey.

Thought You Would Like to Know

The Annual James C. Snyder Memorial Lecture is scheduled for Friday, April 16th. The Snyder Lecture is the department's signature event and is comprised of two receptions, an awards ceremony, Graduate Student Poster Competition and the Snyder Lecture.

Massoud Karshenas, Professor of Economics at the University of London and Adjunct Faculty here in the department, will be here on sabbatical from March – June 2010 working with Tom Hertel in GTAP. "In this period I will be working on household budget surveys of Iran, particularly interested in variance estimation in complex surveys. I hope to be able to extend this work to Isms surveys by the World Bank to investigate the precision of their poverty estimates and variances of other complex disaggregated variables based on household surveys"

Bruce Erickson is teaching another round of Fundamentals in Applied Agronomy, an online course that he developed for the American Society of Agronomy. The twelve-week course is offered twice annually, and follows the objectives developed for the International Certified Crop Adviser program. At present 86 individuals are enrolled, representing 28 states and Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Zimbabwe. For more information see https://www.agronomy.org/fundamentals-in-applied-agronomy.

Undergraduate News:

Carissa McCay and Emily Hirsch will be recognized at the March 31 awards program for receiving scholarships from ISFMA.

The College of Agriculture Council recently voted in new officers and students from the Department of Agricultural Economics were elected to all five executive positions. The Agricultural Council Officers are as follows: Emily Hirsch, President, Fort Branch, IN; Ben Wolff, Vice President, New Windsor, Maryland; Benjamin Stoller, Treasurer, West Lafayette, IN; Leslie Byers, Secretary, Brookston, IN; and Kelly Clark, Public Relations, Wolcott, IN.
News from Center for Food and Agricultural Business

Agricultural Retailers Attend Management Academy
The ARA Management Academy was held February 2-4, 2010, in Purdue’s Krannert Center for Executive Education. Professors Mike Boehlje, Frank Dooley, and Scott Downey from the Department of Agricultural Economics, as well as Dr. Brent Gloy from Cornell University and Rodney Vandeveer from the Department of Organizational Leadership and Supervision gave presentations on financial management, operations and logistics, creating and delivering value, thinking strategically, competitive positioning, and organizational leadership. Fifty-six participants from 22 states and Canada gave the program an average rating of 4.71/5.00.

ALPs Participants Travel to Brazil
The fifth class of Agribusiness Leadership Plus at Purdue (ALPs), comprised of 33 Syngenta employees, traveled to Brazil for the program’s last session and graduation ceremony. The center collaborated with the University of São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto to deliver the final session of the program. While in Brazil, the group discussed agricultural trends in Latin America, visited various agribusinesses, including a coffee operation, and gained a better understanding of Syngenta’s current and future opportunities in that region.

Patterned after an MBA and customized to Syngenta's businesses and markets, ALPs is a non-degree, 16-month program that focuses on management and leadership needs for future positions. It is offered from Syngenta Learning and Development in partnership with the center.

Center Hosts Farm Credit Services Alumni Program in Louisville
Held at the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Kentucky, the center hosted the 9th annual Farm Credit Services Executive Institute for Commercial Producers (EICP) alumni program February 11-12, 2010. More than 30 commercial producers attended the seminar, which featured sessions delivered by agricultural economics faculty members Mike Boehlje and Corinne Alexander. Key topics included the economic outlook for farming in 2010 and the effects of government policy on operations. The program received a rating of 4.77 out of 5.00. The center delivered the original EICP workshop in 2001 and has continued to provide an alumni program each year that allows the producers to reconnect.

MS-MBA Featured in AgCareers.Com
The MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management was recently featured in a weekly e-newsletter distributed by AgCareers.com. The story is available online at http://www.agcareers.com/newsletters/stepup.htm.

Applications are now being accepted for the MS-MBA in Food and Agribusiness Management. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this dual-degree, distance-delivered program, contact Luanna DeMay, program manager, at luanna@purdue.edu or 494-4270. To learn more about the program, visit www.agecon.purdue.edu/agribusiness.

Pioneer Webinar Series Underway
A group of Pioneer’s highest-performing salespeople recently participated in the fifth lecture of Building Success Through Management and Leadership Development, a six-part Webinar series designed to hone their business, leadership, and decision-making skills by refining their understanding of core business functions and the linkages between them.

Professor Rodney Vandeveer from the Department of Organizational Leadership and Supervision delivered the Webinar, which focused on leadership, personnel management, and the many elements of managing people to build a more effective enterprise. In-depth topics included job descriptions, setting expectations, recruiting, interviewing, hiring, selection and salary setting, and evaluating employee performance.
News from Indiana Council for Economic Education (ICEE)
Resources at Purdue

ICEE’s parent organization, the Council for Economic Education (CEE), has published a new booklet written by CEE staff entitled, *What Personal Finance Is About: The Economics of Financial Decision Making*. It will be used primarily in professional development for teachers and will be marketed throughout the United States.

Classroom Business Showcase: On April 15, ICEE will host teachers and students (grades 3-8) who have implemented classroom businesses. Businesses will be showcased in the Purdue Union from 10:45 a.m. to noon. Mark your calendars and plan on meeting these fine teachers and students.

Travel, Speeches, Presented Papers:


Maria Marshall presented, “Running Your Business in Tough Times” at the Arborist Association’s Annual Conference in Indianapolis, IN.

Maria Marshall presented, “Specialty Crop Marketing with MarketMaker” at the Indiana Farm Bureau’s Young Farmer Conference in Indianapolis, IN.


Roman Keeney presented “Managerial Organization of Farms: Its Importance for Classifying Farms and Evaluating the Distribution of Farm Payments” (co-authors Amber Remble and Tamara Ogle) at the Annual Southern Agricultural Economics Association Conference in Orlando, Feb 6-9.

Kwamena Quagrainie will attend AQUACULTURE 2010, San Diego, California - March 1 - 5, 2010

Publications


Internship Opportunities
**Job Announcements:**

Iowa State University: Dept of Economics, Ag Economist with emphasis on livestock issues.
University of Wisconsin – River Falls: Assistant Professor in Agribusiness Management.
University of Kentucky: Extension Specialist in Agricultural Economics – finance
National Marine Fisheries Service: Marine Resource Economists
University of Missouri: Public Policy
University of Connecticut: Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
University of Connecticut: Food System Management
National Center for Appropriate Technology: Three sustainable agriculture specialists
The Ohio State University: Department Head


**Career and Job Sites on the Internet:**

Purdue Extension Service: see website listed below
Career and Job Sites on the Internet
Purdue [http://www.purdue.edu/jobs](http://www.purdue.edu/jobs)
AAEA Job Posting [http://www.aaea.org/employment.html](http://www.aaea.org/employment.html)
Agriculture Career Connection [http://www.ag-biz.com](http://www.ag-biz.com)
Community Colleges, misc [http://www.aacc.nche.edu/](http://www.aacc.nche.edu/)
Congressional Budget Office [http://www.cbo.gov](http://www.cbo.gov)
Employment/Resume Posting [http://galaxy.einet.net/GJ/employment.html](http://galaxy.einet.net/GJ/employment.html)
USDA, Ag Research Service [http://ars.usda.gov](http://ars.usda.gov)

For further information, see the Job Posting File in Room 651
Contact Lou Ann Baugh concerning information to be included in future issues of KT