The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Georgia is celebrating its 75th anniversary. The pinnacle for the celebration is April 2004 with a series of events. The Rod Ziemer Lecture will be held Wednesday, April 14 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The Conner Connects spring banquet will be Thursday, April 15 at the State Botanical Garden. The first departmental golf tournament for alumni, students, faculty and staff will be held Friday, April 16 at the UGA Golf Course. Mark these dates and plan to attend. More details on these events are given below and on the department’s home page <http://www.agecon.uga.edu/>.

For its alumni and friends, the department has developed several new, unique products related to our programs and 75th anniversary celebration, including videos, T-shirts and posters. These products, which are described below, can be ordered now.

**Rod Ziemer Lecture on April 14, 2004**

“Experience with Decoupling Agricultural Support” is the title of the upcoming Rod Ziemer Lecture on April 14, 2004. The lecture will be presented at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education by Dr. John Baffes, a Senior Economist in the Development Prospects Group, The World Bank. He monitors global commodity markets, analyzing agricultural policy reforms. The presentation will review the experience with decoupling government support for agriculture from production decisions in the European Union (1992), Mexico (1994), U.S. (1996) and Turkey (2001). Dr. Baffes will also discuss a number of one time buyouts, including the U.S. peanut program. Dr. Baffes received a B.S. in Economics from the University of Athens, Greece in 1981, an M.S. in Agricultural Economics from UGA in 1986 and a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland in 1992.

**Conner Connects Banquet on April 15, 2004**

Alumni, parents and friends are invited to the annual spring banquet, Conner Connects – a 75th Anniversary Celebration, on Thursday, April 15, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the State Botanical Gardens, Georgia Visitors Center in Athens, Georgia. The cost of the banquet is $17 per person. If you plan to attend, please respond by April 7. There is a reservation form on the last page of this newsletter. For additional information, please email aaecon@agecon.uga.edu or call 706-542-2481.

**Departmental Golf Tournament on April 16, 2004**

The first annual Agricultural and Applied Economics golf tournament for alumni, students, faculty and staff is scheduled at the UGA Golf Course. The Lauderdale-style tournament’s first tee time is 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 16, 2004. The entry fee is $45 per person to cover green fee, cart fee and range balls. If you plan to take part in the golf tournament, please respond by April 7, 2004. For additional information, please email aaecon@agecon.uga.edu or call 706-542-2481. For reservations, fill out the form on the last page.

**Career Opportunities Webpage**
A new "Career Opportunities" webpage has been developed for Agricultural and Applied Economics. It can be reached from a link on the department's homepage. <http://www.agecon.uga.edu/>. This is a dynamic page that changes each time it is accessed with a new alum at the top of the page giving some advise to students. Information is categorized for agricultural economics, agribusiness, and environmental economics for undergraduate majors and minors and graduate degrees. Job openings and internship opportunities are described. Our alumni directory can be accessed from this webpage, and various employment search engines are linked to this webpage. If you are aware of relevant job openings or internship opportunities, please send them to aaecon@agecon.uga.edu.

**Faculty Recognition**

Dr. Jeff Dorfman was selected by the Southern Agricultural Economics Association ( SAEA) to receive the 2004 SAEA Distinguished Award for Teaching of a Course in recognition of his teaching AAEC 4760 – The Economics of Agricultural Processing and Marketing. The course helps prepare students to work in a wide array of food industry jobs. Students are prepared to solve economic and management problems that will likely face them while working in the food industry.

Professor Terry Centner has authored a new book entitled *Empty Pastures: Confined Animals and the Transformation of the Rural Landscape* which is published by the University of Illinois Press. The book probes the extraordinary, worrisome changes that are taking place in our rural landscapes. Dwindling numbers of livestock in the American countryside are a symptom of a broader transformation, one with serious consequences for soils, waters, food, small towns, and inhabitants.

**Staff Recognition**

Laura Alfonso, the department’s librarian, illustrated Professor Centner’s book, *Empty Pastures*. There is a link to view Laura’s illustrations on the department’s March/April website.

**Video of Department's 75-Year History**

The CAES Office of Communications has developed an interesting video of the 75-year history of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Georgia. Interviews with alumni, students and faculty are included in the video, as well as historical information. Some highlights from the past include interviews with Tom Frazier, Wen Williams, Steve Brannen, Evan Brown, Dale Carley and Anne Firor Scott. The department has experienced tremendous growth and changes over the decades. You can order the video in VHS ($15 donation) or DVD ($20 donation) from the department.

**Development Opportunities**

As the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics advances, our mission to provide students with the best economics education possible is even more critical and we cannot do it alone. For our department to continue as a premiere leader in agricultural and applied economics, we need your help to address our funding priorities. To this end, the department announces four new development opportunities: the Tom Frazier Scholarship Fund, the Wen Williams Scholarship Fund, the Evan Brown International Study Fund and the Stephen Brannen Leadership Fund.

Please consider an investment in one of these funds. Your donation to the department is an investment in the present as well as the future. In the words of one of our most distinguished alumni, J.W. Fanning: “The greatest use of life is to invest in something that will outlast it.” A donation to our department will allow you to invest in an
institution whose mission is to continue to bring high quality agricultural and applied economics education to everyone who wants it.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. On behalf of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, we are most grateful.

**Cool Agribusiness Dawg Posters**

You can have one of our own posters featuring the Cool Agribusiness Dawg at the Chicago Board of Trade. The posters which are suitable for framing are now available for a minimum donation of $20 (including shipping). The posters are numbered and signed by the artist, Jay Bauer, Office of Communications, CAES. Send orders to Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509.

**75th Anniversary T-Shirts**

You can have one of our own T-shirts with the 75th Anniversary logo on the front and the Cool Agribusiness Dawg illustration on the back. The T-shirts are now available for a minimum donation of $12 each (which includes postage). Send orders with T-shirt sizes to Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509. Send us a photo of you wearing the T-shirt to be posted on the Internet to spotlight our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. Cameron Brown, class of '93, is shown at his trading desk at UBS in Augusta, GA.

**Request for Alumni News**

The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics is interested in hearing from our alumni. Please inform us of your current job position or other significant accomplishments. This information can be sent by e-mail to the following address: aaecon@agecon.uga.edu or mailed to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Rm. 301 Conner Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7509.
CONNER CONNECTS REGISTRATION  (Due April 7)

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Affiliation:________________________________________________________

____ Yes, I would like to attend Conner Connects on April 15th. I will be bringing ____ guests, and I am enclosing a check for _________ ( $17.00 each). I am also enclosing _______ to help support the event.

Guests’ Names: ____________________________________________________

____ No, I will be unable to attend, but I am enclosing a check for _________ to support the event.

(make checks payable to UGA Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club)

GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION  (Due April 7)

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Email: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

USGA Handicap or average score: ___________________________

I have enclosed $_______ for the golf tournament registration. ($45 each person)

(make checks payable to UGA Agricultural and Environmental Economics Club)

| Agricultural Economics Improvement Fund               | $________ |
| Scholarships and Endowed Funds                        |           |
| Thomas L. Frazier Scholarship Fund                    | $________ |
| Wendell (Wen) Williams Scholarship Fund              | $________ |
| Stephen J. Brannen Student Leadership Endowed Fund   | $________ |
| E. Evan Brown International Education Endowed Fund   | $________ |
| Agricultural Marketing Distinguished Professorship    | $________ |
| Other (specify)_______________________________       | $________ |

(Contributions of $500 or more receive free item from below)

| Suggested Minimum Values (includes shipping and handling) QTY. |
| Booklet on Department’s history $15 ______ | |
| Video on Department’s history  $15 VHS ____ or $20 DVD ____ |
| Agribusiness illustration (signed & numbered) $20 ____ |
| T-shirt (with Agribusiness illustration on back) $12 S ____ M___ L____ XL _____ |

Total contribution for the above items $________

Funds will be used for student enrichment. Make checks payable to UGA Foundation.

My name and address ________________________________

__________________________________________________

Mail to: Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics, 301 Conner Hall, Athens, GA 30602-7509.